

(ग) जिन सेक्शनों में 50 प्रतिशत से 80 प्रतिशत कर्मचारी हिन्दी जानते हैं उनमें हिन्दी में टिप्पणी और मसौदा आलेखन कब तक आरम्भ किए जाने का प्रस्ताव है; और

(घ) इस कार्य में आने वाली अड़चनों को दूर करने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जाने का प्रस्ताव है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्र०चं० सेठी) : (क) से(घ). मांगी गयी सूचना जिसे वित्त मंत्रालय के विभिन्न विभागों से इकट्ठा किया जा रहा है, यथा सम्भव शीघ्र ही सदन की मेज पर रख दी जायगी ।

12.04 hrs

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

STATUE OF MAHATMA GANDHI NEAR
INDIA GATE

SHRIMATI SUCHETA KRIPALANI (Govinda) : I call the attention of the Minister of Health and Family Planning and Works, Housing and Urban Development to the reported recent decision by the Cabinet regarding the site for Gandhi statue between Kasturba Gandhi Marg and Tilak Marg, and request that he may make a statement thereon.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
PLANNING ; AND WORKS, HOUSING
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI
B. S. MURTHY) : Sir, The Government
have had under consideration, for some
time, the question of a suitable site for a
statue of Mahatma Gandhi in the capital.
(Interruptions)

श्री मधु लिमये (मुंबेर) : प्रधान मन्त्री क्यों चली गई ? क्या उनकी मूर्ति लगने वाली थी ?
... (व्यवधान) बदमाशी मत करो ।
(व्यवधान) ... टाइम्स आफ इण्डिया ।
(व्यवधान) मैं भी आप से कह रहा हूँ ।

..... (व्यवधान) आप भगड़ा मत करिए
हमारे साथ । (व्यवधान) अध्यक्ष
महोदय, आप बदतमीज को रोकियेगा ।
(व्यवधान) मैं नित्रलिंगप्पा नहीं हूँ, बद-
माशी मत करो । (व्यवधान) साहू
जैन के दलाल तुम हो । (व्यवधान)
बदतमीज । (व्यवधान)

श्री रणधीर सिंह (रोहतक) : शशि भूषण
ने क्या कर दिया ?

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL (Dabhol) :
It is very objectionable.

एक माननीय सदस्य : बाहर भी नहीं चल
सकता है ।

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down,
Mr. Randhir Singh. I want you to sit down.
I warn you. I have warned you not to
interfere with everything. I am sorry ;
please sit down.

श्री रणधीर सिंह : मैं तो आप का काम
कर रहा हूँ । आप मुझे वार्न कर रहे हैं ?

Are you warning me ? It is very bad ;
I am doing your job. You cannot control
the House. I am controlling it.

श्री रवि राय (पुरी) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, ये
आपको डांट रहे हैं ।

श्री रणधीर सिंह : यह क्या मतलब हुआ ?
आपको वार्निंग करना बहुत ज्यादा आता है ।

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार साल्वे (बेतूल) : अध्यक्ष
महोदय, जो कुछ हुआ वह बहुत दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण है ।
शशि भूषण जी को कहना नहीं चाहिए था जो
उन्होंने कहा । मगर इसकी शुरुआत यह हुई
कि मधु लिमये जी ने यह कहा कि क्या प्रधान
मन्त्री की मूर्ति लगनेवाली है । ... व्यवधान ...
श्रीक मधु लिमये जी ने कहा इस वजह से
भगड़ा बढ़ता है । ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. SPEAKER : I treat it as a misbehaviour.

श्री रणधीर सिंह : ये लोग कुछ भी कहें और हम चुप बैठ रहें ? आपकी वार्निंग सुनें ? हम ऐसी वार्निंग नहीं मानेंगे । ये हमारे लीडर की तोहीन करें और आप वार्निंग देते रहें ? क्या हम कूड़ा कर्कट हैं ? ये हमारे लीडर की तोहीन करें और आप वार्निंग करें । हम बिल्कुल नहीं बैठेंगे(व्यवधान)ये प्राइम मिनिस्टर को गालियां देते जाएं और आप हमको वार्निंग करें । हम बिल्कुल नहीं मानेंगे ।(व्यवधान).....

MR. SPEAKER : The member continues to misbehave. I will have to take some action against such misbehaviour. Mr. Limaye, I warn you also about it. I am not going to tolerate it.

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH : I am not going to tolerate it. (*Interruptions*).

(*Shri Randhir Singh then left the House*).

SHRI HEM BARUA (Mangaldai) : Since Mr. Randhir Singh has challenged the authority of the Chair and has created certain difficulties in the House by his conduct, I propose that he be suspended. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI TENNETI VISWANATHAM (Visakhapatnam) : I do not think we should be hasty in taking this action.

श्री शशि भूषण (खारगोन) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे इस बात का बहुत दुःख है। श्री मधु लिमये मेरे बहुत अच्छे दोस्त हैं। मैंने उनकी शान में कुछ नहीं कहा। जब उन्होंने कहा कि प्रधान मन्त्री की मूर्ति लगेगी तो मैंने कहा कि साहू जैन की लगनी चाहिए। लेकिन उन्होंने मुझ को गुंडा कहा है, ये शब्द वापिस ले लिए जायें। यही मेरी आप से दरखवास्त है।

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR (Quilon) : That motion has been moved.

I submit that it is against your dignity and the conduct which we accept from you to accede to it. You are a big man. You must take it patiently and give some warning. I would request you not to take any precipitate action.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not a question of suspending or warning. I have been noticing that specially there are two or three hon. members. It is all right one or two occasions. But every time he gets up unnecessarily and without any provocation gets himself involved in a quarrel with others. If it is against the remarks of Shri Limaye or Shri Shashi Bhushan or somebody else, I should have been allowed to look into the proceedings and ask somebody to withdraw it. But these gentlemen out-herod Herod sometimes. They are more earnest about the prestige of their leader than perhaps the leader I am very sorry. There are gentlemen sitting on this side. I should have been allowed to judge what is derogatory to the Leader and what is not and not that this gentleman should come in. He would not listen to me in spite of my calling his attention a number of times. I am not going to tolerate such behaviour in future.

DR. KARNI SINGH (Bikaner) : Sir, I have a point of order. Shri Shashi Bhushan and Shri Madhv Limayu are both very good friends of mine, but is it parliamentary for Shri Limaye to call another hon. Member a* or should it be expunged ?

MR. SPEAKER : I would expunge it but it is better if Shri Limaye withdraws it.

श्री मधु लिमये : है ही नहीं तो क्या ऐक्सपंज करियेगा।

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra) : I think, it is a bad principle to have anything expunged from the record. If there is any apology coming afterwards, that can be introduced in the record ; but I am against expunction of anything. Let the parliamentary record record the history Parliament accurately.

*Omitted *Vide* Mr. Speaker's observation on col 228 and 229.

MR. SPEAKER : I am prepared to accept it but sometimes you yourself will come forward asking for expunction of something. Be careful about it. I do not understand what satisfaction it gives you to call each other in such words.

DR. SUSHILA NAYAR (Jhansi) : It should be expunged.

MR. SPEAKER : All right. If the word has been used it will be expunged.

SHRI B. S. MURTHY : *rose*—

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI (Madurai) : Sir, I would request you to ask him to read the statement from the beginning.

SHRI B. S. MURTHY : I am reading the statement from the beginning.

MR. SPEAKER : Right from the very first word.

SHRI B. S. MURTHY : Government have had under consideration, for some time, the question of a suitable site for a statue of Mahatma Gandhi in the Capital. They naturally regard it to be a matter of high importance that the statue of Mahatma Gandhi should be located at the most important and appropriate site for the purpose consistent with the unique position which Mahatmaji enjoyed and continues to enjoy in our national life, as well as aesthetic and other considerations.

SHRI PILOO MODY : Cut out the platitudes.

SHRI B. S. MURTHY : It had been earlier decided that the statue of Mahatma Gandhi be installed at the site near India Gate where formerly stood the statue of King George V. Certain views were expressed by a Committee composed of experts and some of Gandhiji's close friends.....(*Interruption*). In the light of their views, a revised decision was taken. Government continue to be firmly of the view that if any statue is to be installed at this particular site, it should be that of Mahatma Gandhi and no other. However, in view of the fact that a large number of people, including experts as well as many Honourable Mem-

bers of Parliament have expressed varying views on the question of a suitable site for Gandhiji's statue (*Dr. Ram Subhag Singh* : That is wrong. Nobody was consulted). Government have decided to appoint a small Committee to go into this question. Members of Parliament will be associated with the Committee. (*Some Hon. Members* : No. No.) It will also be composed of experts in the fields of architecture and sculpture, and representatives of the Gandhi Smarak Nidhi and the National Committee for Gandhi Centenary. The Committee will be asked to report within this month.

SHRI M. L. SONDHI (New Delhi) : Give a helicopter to this committee.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Cental) : How could the British build up the statue of George V ?

SHRIMATI SUCHETA KRIPALANI : Sir, I must say that I am astounded at the answer given. It is full of equivocation and it is not a straightforward answer. On such a simple matter, at least we expect an honest and straightforward answer. Advisedly I am not using stronger language than I would have liked to use.

This matter was first agitated in the press with the news item that appeared on the 26th November. There was no contradiction by the Government. Then, it was briefly raised in the Lok Sabha which was not contradicted by the Government. It was raised in the Rajya Sabha which was also not contradicted by the Government. Today, this morning, we find in *Patriot*, an un-official mouth-piece of the Government, that there is no decision to change the site. Now, we had given notice of a Call Attention, when the House was seized of it, the manner in which this information has been leaked out, I do not know from which particular news agency, I think, constitutes contempt of the House. It is a matter of breach of privilege also. It is a back-door method of giving information.

Then, this reply of the Government is astounding. A Committee was appointed on which Members of Parliament, both of this

[Shrimati Sucheta Kirpalani]

House, and other House, were represented and, I think, the Lt. Governor, Shri A. N. Jha, was also a member of the Committee. That Committee gave a unanimous recommendation that Gandhiji's statue should be installed where the statue of George V was at the India Gate.

In view of that unanimous recommendation, I think, a Cabinet decision was taken? Was a Cabinet decision taken? If a Cabinet decision was taken, I want to understand where from certain views were expressed by a Committee consisting of experts and some Gandhiji's close associates? What was that Committee? Who were Gandhiji's close associates who expressed their views? We know of only one Committee that was appointed. We are not aware of this Committee. We know that Committee gave a unanimous decision. I do not know another Committee came into existence and in the light of their advice, a revised decision was taken. When was a revised decision taken and by whom? If there was a Cabinet decision, I would like to know when the Cabinet revised its previous decision. Why was a new Committee appointed? When was it appointed?

Then, we are told that there are varying views expressed by Members of Parliament. Who are the Members of Parliament who have been expressing varying views and for what reasons? The most astounding factor is this. After all, the Government which is supposed to be representing the people—no other party here is supposed to be representing the people except the Prime Minister's little group—and if they are representing the people, should at least know that in Delhi as well as in the whole country there is a strong feeling that Mahatma Gandhi is the biggest leader of this country. Do they not know even this? The most prominent place is India Gate which should have Gandhiji's statue in the Gandhi Centenary year.

Why was the decision changed? When was the decision changed? What Committee was appointed? Who were the members of that Committee? Who were the close associates of Gandhiji who said that Gandhiji's statue should not be there,

Now, what is the reason for appointing this new Committee? We would rather say, if they are think of a new Committee, let the decision be taken by this House. Let the Parliament decide where Gandhiji's statue should be installed.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI K. K. SHAH): Sir, I do not know why this unnecessary controversy.....
(Interruptions)

SHRI RABI RAY: It is because of your reply.

श्री मधु लिमये : अध्यक्ष महोदय श्रीमती सुचेता कृपालनी के प्रश्नों का जवाब हमें चाहिए ।

SHRI K. K. SHAH: Please listen patiently. When you hear my reply, you will be completely satisfied that there has been no change. In fact, in the first meeting that I held.....(Interruptions) Please hear me patiently. I will give all the information; Seriatim I have no doubt you will be satisfied.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY (Kendrapara): It is disgraceful. So far as the statue of Mahatma Gandhi is concerned, this Government has entered into a controversy.

SHRI RABI RAY: It is disgraceful.

संसद् राष्ट्र की सर्वोच्च जनतंत्री संस्था है और उस की एक स्वर से यह मांग है कि गांधी जी की प्रतिमा वहीं लगनी चाहिए ।

SHRI K. K. SHAH: Please listen. After a decision was taken, a Committee, with a view to decide the type of statue, was appointed consisting of Shri M. L. Nanda, the Engineer-in-Chief; Shri Brij Kishan Chandiwala, the Chief Architect; Shri Devendra Kumar Gupta Shri B. C. Sanyal, Shri J. R. Bhalla of the Indian Institute of Archaeology, Shri H. Rahman...

SHRIMATI SUCHETA KRIPALANI: When was it appointed?

SHRI K. K. SHAH: I will give you the date; I have got all the papers here.

I will just now give the date.

AN HON. MEMBER : You ask Mr. Jaganath Rao.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : This was appointed on 26th June 1968. This Committee came out with a proposal that "While deciding the statue, we feel that the canopy which is a regal canopy either should have to be removed...

SOME HON. MEMBER : Remove it.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I have made it quite clear in May 1969 when the first meeting was held after the report was received and that also I am going to read it for your information.

Secondly they say 'If you remove the canopy and if you want to put up a double life size statue, then, on account of the India Gate, the view will be obstructed unless you keep the pose sitting as the King George statute is. Because you want a 2½ size statue to be put up, then the view will be obstructed.' They pleaded that the place just opposite the 'chatri'—here you can have a fountain or something you like—that means the hexagon which is covered between the children's park and the statue so that it will be on the road and it will be facing this and there will be a fountain. They made this suggestion,

Now when the suggestion came to me, I called the first meeting and said with a view to leave no doubt that the Parliament wants that the statue should be at that place.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH (Buxar) : That is your note.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : No, no, in the meeting. I have said this in the meeting. It is not of to-day. It is of 16th May 1969, the first meeting which I held after I took over charge. I said that if no change is to be made and ultimately even if you take a decision, that decision will have to go to Parliament. 'Therefore, you will have to prepare a note which I will have to take to Parliament'. This is what I said and I have no doubt whatsoever. Therefore, I said that if time is taken in taking the decision, simultaneously, a Committee should

be appointed to prepare the statue so that time is not wasted. We have also invited applications and out of the applications invited we have selected 9 and a Committee headed by Shri Gajendragadkar is to decide what type of statue should be set up. When this suggestion was made I conveyed it by a letter to the Cabinet. (Interruptions)

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY : He is an expert on statue :

श्री मधु लिमये : और कोई आजादी की लड़ाई लड़ने वाला ब्राह्मदी नहीं मिलता है । हर सरकारी काम के लिए गजेन्द्रगडकर ।

SHRI K. K. SHAH : Apart from Shri Gajendragadkar, Shri Rajamannar..... (Interruptions) Please hear me. This is about the statue, not about the size. (Interruptions) When they came with the suggestion, I went to the Cabinet. They said, 'If they do not agree, give them the hexagon between the Kasturba Marg and the Tilak Road.'

SEVERAL HON MEMBERS : No, no.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : Why don't you listen to me. When this suggestion was made, it was conveyed to them. They did not agree. They stuck to their proposal. They ultimately said 'It should be where the President sits and behind the President so that when the march past takes place, it will be in front of Gandhiji'. This is the Committee's opinion. I said 'You prepare a note. We will have to take it to Parliament. At that time you can also be included in the Committee.' (Interruptions) I do not know why this type of feeling should be generated. This is not a question of Government alone. It is a question of all Parties. Therefore, there is no question of taking a unilateral decision. I made it clear on 16th May 1969. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY : Mrs. Kripalani referred to a Committee which has unanimously recommended that the statue should be there. After the recommendation of that Committee you have appointed another Committee.

DR. SUSHILA NAYAR (Jhansi) : We wanted that the statue should be put

[Dr. Shushila Nayar]

up there within the Gandhi Centenary year. The year is coming to a close. Why these delaying tactics ?

SHRI K. K. SHAH : There is no delaying tactics here...

DR. SUSHILA NAYAR : The matter is being delayed. You appoint another Committee. This means the matter is being further delayed.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I do not understand this. If people who are experts and who are Gandhiji-minded come back with a particular suggestion, I have ultimately to come back with that suggestion to you. What else can I do ? I can understand if I were to take a decision without consulting Parliament. Then, you can take me to task. But can I not come back with a suggestion of experts ? Have I not the right to come back to Parliament, before you, saying that these are the views expressed by them ? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : You have read the name of Shri Gajendragadkar. What are the other names ? Please say that.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : The first committee consisted of Shri Mehr Chand Khanna, Shri ... *(Interruption)*

SHRI M. L. SONDHI (New Delhi) : We are in a democracy. Did he consult the Member of Parliament for New Delhi ? *(Interruption)* Sir, I rise on a point of order. Are we in a democracy or not ?

SHRI K. K. SHAH : The hon. Member was not a Member of Parliament then. He is asking about 1966. This is a Committee which came into existence in the year 1966. I am not giving the names of the present Committee. I am giving the names of the 1966 Committee.

श्री म० ला० सोंधी: अध्यक्ष महोदय इन्होंने लोकतन्त्र की अवहेलना की है।

SHRI K. K. SHAH : This is a Committee appointed in 1966.

माननीय सदस्य सुनते नहीं हैं, स्वामस्वाह स्वाल उठाते हैं। The 1966 Committee consisted of Shri Mehr Chand Khanna, Shri

Brahm Prakash, Shri H. C. Mathur, Shri Ganga Saran Sinha, Shri Nuruddin Ahmed, Shri V. Viswanathan, Sardar Mohan Singh, Shri N. G. Dewaz, Shri S. K. Joglekar and Shri S. Chowdhury. That Committee had stated that the statue of King George-V should be removed—this has since been removed—from its present position and the place is to be utilised for the installation of a statue of Mahatma Gandhi.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH : Why are you reopening it now ? Why do you reopen now when the Committee had already decided to instal a statue there ?

SHRI K. K. SHAH : There is no question of reopening this. I have a right to come back to you. If I were to take a decision without coming back to you, you can take me to task. Nobody can take away my right to come back to Parliament and place before Parliament the views that have been expressed. The Government has a right to come back to Parliament. I have not taken any decision without consulting Parliament.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDI : The Minister is suffering from a confusion...

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH : Why this should be reopened ? If he proceeds in this way, it will create all sorts of difficulties.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDI : It is all right for him to say that he wants to come back to Parliament but is he coming forward with any concrete proposals that a statue should be there at such and such a place ?

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I am prepared to leave it to the Speaker to appoint a Committee of Members and experts.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH : He has taken 3 years to finalise the names of the Members of the Committee. At this rate, how many centuries he will take to make a statue, I do not know.

SHRI J. B. KRIPALANI (Guna) : Sir, may I say a few words ?

SHRI S. KUNDU (Balasore) : On a point of order...

SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA (Gauhati) : On a point of order. How can you allow a Member whose name is not there on the notice to put a question ?

SHRI S. KUNDU : The answer has not been completed. Certain points were raised, and he was replying, but while he was half way through, he got agitated and sat down. I think he has cooled down in the meantime, and you may kindly ask him to resume his reply.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I do not agree with his assessment of myself.

SHRI S KUNDU : That means that he has not cooled down still.

MR. SPEAKER : The point raised by Shri Dhireswar Kalita is perfectly right. But I hope he will agree that the husband is entitled to assist his wife.

SHRI HEM BARUA (Mangaldai) : In a huff, the hon. Minister had made a very good suggestion to you. Why do you not assist him by appointing a Committee of Member of Parliament ?

SHRI SEZHIYAN (Kumbakonam) : Assistance can be given at home, not in the House here.

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI (Madurai) : Everywhere the husband is entitled to assist his wife.

SHRI J. B. KRIPALANI : I think we have not proper artists or architects to make a good statue of Gandhiji. So far as I know of history, great statues were made of the Buddha and of Christ, centuries after the Buddha and Christ. Gandhiji does not need any statue. His statue will be made all over the world ; they will be made after centuries. How does it matter what Government decides ? And this Government can never decide properly ; I know that. Let us allow them to do what they like. It is history that will record what they have done. There is no need for us to discuss this question. Gandhiji does not need any statue. Gandhiji does not need anything from us but to follow his principles. If his principles are not followed, these statues do not matter.

DR. RANEN SEN (Barasat) : This can

be handed over to the architects of the Jaipur Sangh.

SHRIMATI SUCHETA KRIPALANI : The hon. Minister had given us the personnel of the first committee, and we find that there were artists and architect-members of the committee, Shri Joglekar and some other person. Members of Parliament were there and others were also there. We expect that they would have taken all factors into consideration before giving a unanimous decision. After that, what was the need to deviate from their recommendation ? Secondly we find that they are delaying it more and more and they are not keeping up to the time-schedule. We understood that it would be done in the Gandhij Centenary year. We would like to know whether Government are going to keep the time-schedule and finish it within this year.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I think the hon. Member must have listened to my answer about why we came back to the House. Simultaneously, we have also invited architects to be ready with a statue, because the time-limit was in my mind. I made it clear that even if they did not agree to the site, if they wanted me to change, then I should have to go back to Parliament ; I should first have to consult the Cabinet, and after consulting the Cabinet, I would have to come back to Parliament, and it might take time ; therefore, I said that let us simultaneously invite architects to be ready with the statue, and tenders have been invited also for the statue...

SHRI J. B. KRIPALANI : May I again request that this subject may be dropped ?

SHRI PILOO MODY : Why should they invite tenders for this ? I do not know why they do not invite tenders for filling their own Ministries !

SHRI J. B. KRIPALANI : We are not going to honour Gandhiji by this. I say, stop this. Do not bring the name of Gandhiji here and discuss it. I object to it.

AN HON. MEMBER : Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani had done it.

SHRI J. B. KRIPALANI : Sucheta may have done it...

AN HON. MEMBER : Ask her to keep quiet.

SHRI J. B. KRIPALANI : Sucheta is a Member of the House. I am asking the House to drop the subject. I have never dictated to my wife as to what she ought to do or ought not to do. I have given her utmost freedom to do what she likes. So, let my hon. friend not talk like that. But I say that this subject must be dropped. It does no honour to Gandhiji, nor does it do any honour to this country or to this House. Finish it. Gandhiji does not want any statue. Who the devil says that Gandhiji wants a statue ?

AN HON. MEMBER : Mrs. Kripalani wants. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : May I also say something, before I call any hon. Member ? The hon. Minister said that he would ask the Speaker to appoint another committee. I do not think it will be proper. A parliamentary committee decided unanimously and the sense of this House, as I have assessed it, is also that they stand by that decision. The only thing is that a situation has arisen because of the technical advice that the hon. Minister has put before the House. In view of the strong feelings in this House as well as the Members, rather than entering into controversies and making emotional and stimulating speeches, let him kindly find a way out to implement the wishes of Parliament, rather than creating heat here in this House over Gandhiji, let him do that ; out of all persons, over Gandhiji, let him not try to create heat in this House.

SHRI GULAM MOHAMMAD BAKSHI (Srinagar) : On a point of order...

میں کہتی उٹتا نہیں ہوں۔ اس بار آپ کو
سُننا پڑے گا..... (بجواب)

میں کہتی اٹھتا نہیں ہوں۔ اس بار آپ کو
سُننا پڑے گا..... (بجواب)

SHRI PILOO MODY : May I be allowed to say something on this subject ?

AN HON. MEMBER : Let Shri Piloo Mody speak because he is an architect.

SHRI M. L. SONDHI : On a point of

order. My point of order is addressed to you and through you to the House, that in a matter like this of such importance, which has been highlighted here, it has to be considered whether this Parliament has the right to be faced with a situation where some decision taken by Parliament, with which the people's wishes are identified, is to be brought up here in a manner which can lead to a certain amount of disgrace coming to all of us ? Therefore, if you will agree, do not allow any more discussion on this matter. Let the matter end now. Otherwise, I have to state my part of it, the people's feelings, satyagraha and so on.

MR. SPEAKER : I only hope that his part may not come.

SHRI M. L. SONDHI : The matter should finish now. Otherwise, we shall go on.

SHRI PILOO MODY : You had called me. I had yielded to Shri M. L. Sondhi because he was on a point of order.

Shri M. L. Sondhi seems to think that his word should be the last on a subject such as this. I am constrained to note that it is not possible to permit Members of Parliament to decide how a particular matter should be commemorated. It would be wholly inadequate and wholly unwise to allow non-experts in a matter like this to decide how it should be commemorated. I cannot compromise my artistic integrity to the sort of political skull-duggery that has been going on...

SHRI M. L. SONDHI : Are you going to allow a speech on this ? What is the political skull-duggery to which he is referring ?

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Piloo Mody may resume his seat. If I allow him, then there will be many others who would like to speak.

SHRI PILOO MODY : I take back the words 'political skull-duggery'.

SHRI M. L. SONDHI : What is this insinuation ? What for and for what pur-

pose? Even democracy is political skull-duggery. What is he going to do about this? I would like to tell him that Gandhiji is held in great reverence by all of us. When you, Sir, have yourself appealed that we should not import passion into it and so on, here is an invitation to come out with it. Shri Piloo Mody is a very good friend, and we share so many things in common, but on this thing, he is entirely wrong and misguided. He has said that I wanted to have the last word on the subject. I do not want to have the last word on my behalf, but the people certainly should have the last word. The people must have the last say. Experts come in a different capacity; experts can only guide, but it is the sovereign right of the people to decide in such matters.

SHRI PILOO MODY : I think it is wholly appropriate.....(*Interruptions*). I want only one minute. The Speaker has given me permission to speak. Why do they behave like this?

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : On a point of order. How does it lie in him to pass a stricture on us like this? I would say he has no artistic sense (*Interruptions*). We know about Gandhiji more than he does (*Interruptions*).

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU (Chittoor) : On a point of clarification.

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

SHRI PILOO MODY : It is wholly appropriate that Parliament should decide that that area should be used to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi. But at least let the members of Parliament defer to artistic and expert opinion of how best it can be done.

DR. KARNI SINGH (Bikaner) : On a point of order. You were pleased to observe that the sense of the House has been taken. How can we take the sense of the House when only five members have a chance to ask questions? Many of us hold other views. It is an insult to Gandhiji to put his statue on the same pedestal where an English King's statue stood. This is our opinion. Other members of the House may

hold a different view. Let us have a discussion (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : On the ashes of the Ministry (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : This was an ordinary calling attention motion. I allowed two questions to Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani. There are three other members on the list. Unfortunately, heat got generated. I am very sorry. I hope you will take it as an innocent calling attention motion with its own procedure and formalities and not interfere with these. In order to avoid further points of order, I suggested that there was a Committee already that gave a finding and as I saw the sense of the House, Members stood by that.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Yes, yes.

MR. SPEAKER : But the Minister says there was a committee composed of architects, artists and so on and they gave certain suggestions. I conveyed to him that Parliament has heard their views and he might please communicate the views of the House as witnessed here today and find a way out.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta North East) : How do you know? How do you ascertain the views of the House? There was no debate.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : The House, at least the leaders of all parties, must have a chance to hear. At least let me discharge my responsibility to the House so that they know and appreciate the point of view. I will call all the leaders of political parties. Let them hear them.

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU : On a point of order. The Minister's answer is not clear. He said a committee has been appointed...

MR. SPEAKER : I do not treat it as a point of order.

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU : Please hear me whether it is a point of order or not.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Manubhai Patel.

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL : The hon. Minister had replied stating that the doubts would be cleared after hearing him. I am sorry to say that on the contrary, after hearing him, my confusion has become worse confounded.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : That is in his mind.

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL : Because the Government has lately developed a tendency of delaying taking decisions on matters concerning statues of national importance. For the last four years the statue of Lala Lajpat Rai has been lying in Lajpat Bhavan. The Centenary Committee approached the Government four times, we approached the Government three times, I approached the hon. Minister in charge so many times, and still no decision has been taken. That is the tendency. I am sorry and it pains us to think that probably the same thing will apply to Mahatma Gandhi's statue also, because on 26.8.1969 the Prime Minister, while replying in the Rajya Sabha, said, and I quote...

MR. SPEAKER : I am not going to allow any preface or introduction. Ask a straight question.

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL : She replied that the decision about the statue of Mahatma Gandhi will have to be taken along with so many other statues also. So, the Prime Minister and the Government mix up the issue of Gandhiji's statue with other statues. The statue of the Father of the Nation is being treated like this.

The reply which the Minister just gave was full of contradictions. A decision was taken that the statue will be installed at the site of the statue of George V, and that is why that statue was removed. After removing that statue, no decision to instal any other statue at that spot can arise. Here the Minister says it is regarding the type of statue, that if there is any quarrel or dispute about it, then Shri Gajendragadkar will give a decision, as if it is some labour trouble.

Then he says a second committee will be appointed. A committee was appointed before. A Cabinet decision was taken twice. How many times are we going to discuss this solemn matter, the statue of Gandhiji ?

So, I have to put a categorical question. Want a categorical assurance from the Minister that no other statue will be placed on that particular site chosen for Mahatma Gandhi's statue. I want a categorical assurance.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : First of all, I have get yet to learn from my hon. friend as a lawyer the meaning of contradiction. I do not know whether he uses some other dictionary which has a different connotation for contradiction, because he has failed to point out where I have contradicted.

Secondly, when I am telling him that ultimately the decision is the decision of Parliament, what I am doing is to exercise a right of going back to my sovereign master, to give to the sovereign master additional information which has been brought to my notice by a committee of experts. There is no contradiction from my point of view. It was wrong for my hon. friend to mix up one statue with another statue.

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL : That is being done by the Prime Minister.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : The other statues are being decided on merits, and the matter can be discussed on the floor of the House, I have no objection. I still plead with the House in order to be able to justice to the expert opinion, it is necessary that at least the leaders of political parties hear the experts and take decision.

So far as the committee is concerned, I am sorry they took only one name. As I told you, the names are not only Gajendragadkar ; besides him, there are Rajamannar, Kahndalawala, Padmaja Naidu, J. R. Bhalla, Kanvinde, Satyajit Ray and H. Rahman. This is only from the artistic point of view. This is not with a view to decide the site, it is far deciding the

artistic value of the statue. Let us be fair.

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL : My question has not been replied. I am not discussing the type of statue. I want a categorical answer whether on that site meant for Mahatma Gandhi some other statue will be put or not.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I have made it clear that this site will not be used for any body else except Gandhiji.

I have made that statement. My hon. friend was so agitated that he had not heard what I had read out on the floor of the House. That shows how even statements made on the floor of the House are not remembered...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL : Now you are committed to what I said.

श्री राम किशन गुप्त (हिसार) : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बात साफ करने की कोशिश करेंगे कि यह जो कमेटी मुकर्रर की गई थी, इस का प्रकशन सिर्फ यह था कि किस किस का, कैसे, स्टैचू लगाया जाये, न कि उस का काम साइट या जगह के बारे में फैसला करना था ?

श्री के० के० शाह : माननीय सदस्य की बात ठीक है, लेकिन उन के पायंट आफ व्यू को महत्व देना चाहिए या नहीं यह निर्णय करना तो माननीय सदस्यों और इस सदन का काम है। मैंने टाइम बचाने के लिए एक तरफ तो आर्किटेक्ट्स को स्टैचू बनाने के लिए कहा है और दूसरी तरफ जगह तय करने के बारे में जो ओपीनियन आई है, तो क्या उस को इस सदन के सामने रखने का अधिकार माननीय सदस्य नहीं देंगे, ताकि कहीं इतने बड़े आदमी के स्टैचू के बारे में कोई गलती न हो जाये ? इस में क्या गलती है, यह बात मेरी समझ में नहीं आती है।

SHRI R. S. ARUMUGAM (Tenkasi) : During the British regime they selected this site as suitable for the erection of the statue

of George V. Gandhiji is the father of our nation and if the statue of somebody else is erected in that place, thousands of persons will protest and also will take to satyagraha against that step. Considering all these things and the advice of our hon. Speaker, may I know the reaction of our Government ?

SHRI K. K. SHAH : On the contrary, the fact that hundreds of the persons will go to visit that Statue and the area—does not your own argument support the experts?...*(Interruptions)* The contention of the experts is that there is a road around and thousands of persons will be going there and offering homage and respect to Mahatmaji. All of them will have to cross that road.

DR. SUSHILA NAYAR : The people could stand outside the round about.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : The statue must be there in the Centre, in that place. Let the leaders of the political parties hear them...

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Why ?

12.52 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

PAPERS UNDER COMPANIES ACT, 1956

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS : (SHRI D. R. CAAVAN) : I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following papers under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act 1956—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Engineers India Limited, New Delhi for the year 1968-69.

(ii) Annual Report of the Engineers India Limited, New Delhi for the year 1968-69 ; along with the Audited Accounts and the Comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.