

Mr. Speaker: There is no point of order. The hon. Member is starting a discussion now. There is no point of order. Let him kindly resume his seat.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The Central Government employees are going to see the hon. Prime Minister today. Can you not ask the Home Minister to make a statement that the ban on procession will be removed? Otherwise, there will be lathi charge and it will continue. All this will happen. I am telling the Prime Minister so that she may do something about it.

Shri M. L. Sondhi: We want leadership from her.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: We are not discussing the question here. But I ask why should sec. 144 be imposed. We are not policemen so that the Union could be banned.

12.52 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS)
NO. 2 BILL* 1967

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Parimal Ghosh): On behalf of Shri C. M. Poonacha, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services for the purposes of Railways during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 1965, in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services for the purposes of Railways during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 1965, in excess of

the amounts granted for those services and for that year".

The motion was adopted.

Shri Parimal Ghosh: I introduce the Bill.

12.53 hrs.

RE. HARASSMENT TO MEMBER BY
BOMBAY POLICE

Mr. Speaker: There is the matter concerning the complaint of Shri Virendrakumar Shah regarding the treatment given to him. He is not here.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): This is a matter in which not only one hon. Member's privilege is involved. Some of us have also written to you about it.

Mr. Speaker: Let us wait for him.

Shri Nath Pai: This matter of harassment of an hon. Member is not a matter of breach of privilege of a Member only; it concerns the whole House.

Mr. Speaker: He will please resume his seat. I will explain the position. Shri Shah wrote to me. He is not here today. Though we had sent him a telegram on the 1st, whatever be the reason, he has not been able to come here today. I wish he were also here so that we could get first-hand information. We would like to hear from him a first-hand account of what happened. I shall therefore postpone it for a day or two.

Shri Nath Pai: Suppose he is incapacitated from coming? The whole question is one of interference with the Member's freedom. He is not in a position to raise it here personally. Therefore, he approaches you. Suppose he is not able to come? I do not regard it as a breach of privilege of one Member, but of the whole House. So my right to raise it here, with your permission, remains absolutely untrammelled.

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, dated 3-8-1967.

†Introduced with the Recommendation of the President.

Mr. Speaker: No question of raising that way. The Minister has to get information from the local officers. Suppose there is something in that information which is not correct. You and I do not know the details. Therefore, we must hear from the hon. Member concerned himself. I do not mind disposing it of here and now, I can do it. But I thought we must wait till the hon. Member returned.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): When he comes, it can be taken up.

Mr. Speaker: Suppose he does not. We cannot wait indefinitely. We have sent a telegram on the 1st. We will take it up on Monday.

Shri Nath Pai: In the meanwhile, Shri Chavan may be instructed not to proceed with further harassment of the hon. Member. Can we have that assurance?

Shri Ranga (Srikakulam): Just now we have received a message from Shri Virendrakumar Shah saying that he had an opportunity to meet the Chief Minister and the Chief Minister expressed his unhappiness that this enquiry should have been made of him. Therefore, Shri Shah is not really keen on pursuing the matter.

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Y. B. Chavan): May I also explain?

Mr. Speaker: Then we can proceed with it now.

Shri Y. B. Chavan: Certainly, what has happened is a matter of regret. I must say that the behaviour of the sub-inspector was, to say the least, stupid. We are all sorry for it. I also express my regret. As far as we are concerned, we will see that such things are not repeated.

Shri Nath Pai: I am glad that Shri Chavan has been candid enough to describe this kind of behaviour towards the hon. Member as stupid. The

matter had to be raised because of my personal experience with Shri Chavan. I did not receive a particularly kind treatment in the hands of his policemen in 1960. When the matter was raised in the Assembly, Shri Chavan said, 'Shri Nath Pai should have complained to me.' I did not condescend to complain because I had never expected such a thing. Therefore, I would not complain to anybody except the people, but here a fellow member is concerned, but Mr. Chavan has come out with the description that it is stupid, and I hope this will be taken very seriously by the concerned authorities, and there will not be a repetition of it.

Mr. Speaker: May I also add that it is not only an hon. member, any citizen should not be asked just to come to the police station. I would also request the hon. Minister to tell us after some time if any action is taken against the concerned officer.

Shri Y. B. Chavan: The Maharashtra Government have informed me that they are themselves taking action against the sub-inspector. I entirely agree. It is not merely a question of a Member of Parliament. No citizen can be treated this way. Really speaking, unfortunately our police have not come out of their old tradition. (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member wants information. He was asked to come to the police station. When he went, he was asked: what is your name, what is your flat number, what is our telephone number etc. All these things were asked. Anyway, it is all over now. I am glad the Maharashtra Government has taken a strong view. I am also glad the Home Minister has taken a strong view about it.

Shri Ranga: May I be allowed to say a few words? Something which caused us a bit of unhappiness has taken place today by the talk between Mr. Kandappan and yourself. I would

like you to give some consideration to it when you go back to your chamber, and see that Mr. Kandappan continues to receive your eye as well as your goodwill.

Mr. Speaker: I have nothing personal.

12.58 hrs.

MOTION RE: FOURTEENTH AND FIFTEENTH REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES FOR THE YEARS 1964-65 AND 1965-66—Contd.

Mr. Speaker: Further consideration. We have already taken 45 minutes out of seven hours. Mr. Solanki may continue his speech.

Shri S. M. Solanki (Gandhinagar): There is no time.

Mr. Speaker: Two or three minutes are there. Yesterday also you took two minutes. Today also. Does not matter.

Shri S. M. Solanki: May I remind the hon. members of this House that the Indian people profess different religions, castes which are undemocratic institutions, which have influenced to a large extent the growth of local, regional and State loyalties and have threatened both national unity and our social progress. We the Indian people have failed to digest democracy. It has not been rooted in the traditions of the people. We are only surrounded by gherao. I want to say something about gherao, but this is not the subject today. Today we hear from the newspapers that in Bihar there is a gherao, in Bengal there is a gherao, but I want to ask: have you ever heard from any newspaper that in any part of India the scheduled castes and the scheduled tribes people have taken to such a kind of gherao? This is because the scheduled caste people understand the real position and the

defects of this gherao, because it is a very injurious thing. I say it is not only injurious in a narrow sense, but it is injurious to the intellectual life of nation.

I draw your attention to the fact that we have forgotten the old values of our ancient Indian culture which held our society all together, which have now disappeared. Remember those days when our Indian civilisation and culture had reached to its highest zenith. I am very proud to remember the rehistorical period when the cradles of Indian civilisation and culture were lulled in the villages of the Indus and the Ganges. If you enter the corridors of our ancient history and literature, you will jump with rhythmical steps without interruption. It is not grandiloquent saying but real and true, we have had our own culture and civilisation, national in form and socialist in content.

13 hrs.

There is one line in Hindi:

सत्य छिपा नहीं सकते मोठी जवानों से ।
बुराबू आ नहीं सकती बने कागज के फूलों से ।

That is the real thing. But today it is very sinful on our part that we have forgotten all these things. We are far beyond the verge of active and independent historical activity and we are not able to reach the horizontal line of our cultural achievements. How can we reach the profound internationalism without respect for national dignity, friendship and fraternity?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member may continue his speech after lunch.

13.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till Fourteen hours of the Clock.