

अभी कहा गया है कि राइफल ट्रेनिंग अगर दी जाए तो आदमी में हिम्मत आती है। गांधीजी के पास कोई राइफल नहीं थी आत्म-बल था। मैं भी राइफल का इस्तेमाल नहीं कर सकता हूँ। लेकिन फिर भी मैं इन्वेन्शन के बदन बड़े बड़े मजमों का सामना करता हूँ, जो पथराव करते हैं, उनका मुकाबला करता हूँ। मैं समझता हूँ कि आदमी का बनवाने के लिए बन्दूक की ज़रूरत नहीं बल्कि खाना पीना उसका अच्छा हाना चाहिये, आदते अच्छी होनी चाहिये, दूध भी वह खाए और थगब भिगरेट आदि में परहेज रहे। इस तरह की चीज़ों में नागों को ट्रेन करना और इस तरह की परवरिश उनकी करना बहुत जरूरी है।

श्री मूलबन्द डिंगा मव साधु बन जाए।

श्री एम० रामगोपाल रेड्डी अगर आदमी मजबूत नहीं होगा तो वह बन्दूक कैसे उठा और चला सकेगा? तब बड़ी मुश्किल हो जाएगी।

पहले हमारे देश में भी जानवर होते थे और एक राइफल हानों थी। लेकिन आज भी बन्दूकें और एक भी जानवर दिखाई नहीं देना है। कोबा, पीराक, कब आदि मारे जा चुके हैं। जा पांडे बहुत बचे हैं ऐसा करके वह भी खत्म हो जाएंगे। इस वारंते राइफल ट्रेनिंग नहीं होनी चाहिये। देश में मिलट्री है, फर्स्ट कालम है, सैकिड कालम है, थर्ड कालम है और फोर्थ कालम है। यह फिफथ कालम नहीं होना चाहिये, इतना ही मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN. The debate on this Bill will continue on the appropriate Friday.

17.30 hrs.

HALF-AN HOUR DISCUSSION

RAID ON THE RESIDENCE OF A DIRECTOR OF ANAND BAZAR PATRIKA, CALCUTTA

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour). This paper *Anand Bazar Patrika*, is a monument of CIA's success in infiltration in India in a vital sector of our society. It is a congregation centre for that purpose. Let us find out from the Home Minister how many *Anand Bazar Patrika* people have visited the USA as their guests during the last five years. On the one hand, the leaders are shouting from the roof-tops about CIA activities in the country, on the other, the *Anand Bazar Patrika* is flourishing.

These people have sold their conscience to the American lobby. They congregate there and payment is disbursed to them by the *Anand Bazar Patrika* authorities. Shri Abhik Sarkar, one of the directors, who is the elder son of Shri Ashok Sarkar, is a reporter of the Asian News Service, a subsidiary of the International Press Institute Asian Division. This Institute is a CIA joint passed in Hong-kong, Manila and may other places.

Is it not a fact that Shri Abhik Sarkar got an accreditation from the West Bengal Government's Information and Publicity Department? They were continuously using illegally the *Anand Bazar Patrika* and *Hindustan Standard* telex system. I want to know what the intelligence wing of the Post and Telegraph Department does.

I had raised the point in the Consultative Committee of the Home Ministry. The Minister of State in the Ministry Shri Pant, had replied They had praised the *Ananda Bazar Patrika* for the role it played in the freedom struggle.

"About sending the news to America, the Post and Telegraph

[SHRI IYOTIIRMOY BOSU]

Department had gone into the matter. The person who sent the news was not connected with the paper. Anyhow the Government were looking into the matter."

We want to know from him today what they have found after that.

This is a most dangerous and anti-national piece of work. During the Indo-Pakistan war, without going to the censor this was done. Out of many only one has been detected accidentally, on 10th December 1971. It was sent by Shri Abhik Sarkar. I am reading out the number of the creed 10th December 1971 H x 4610 ANACRV ANANDA CA 321 Y Abhik Sarkar. This was sent out of the country in contravention of the rules and laws in force to help certain lobbies which were waging a campaign against the Indian Government and their activities.

Unfortunately a wrong statement was made in the Consultative Committee. It was said that it was not sent by Shri Abhik Sarkar. But I have got a true copy. I can authenticate it if you like, and lay it on the Table. This shows that the Director of the Ananda Bazar Patrika Shri Abhik Sarkar, had sent the creed.

The UNI sent out a creed giving out this news. But the head man in Anand Bazar Patrika phoned up every newspaper and requested them to gag it. This is a long 3-page creed. I have before me. I will read one or two extracts from it which will make you shiver in anger. It says:

"There can however, be no barrier strong enough to hold a determined army as Hitler so well demonstrated when he had overrun Holland during the last world war."

Another one—it says:

"Reports reaching London from Dacca by odd telephone connection that managed to get through."

This is the condition, this is the position with regard to this. Who is this Hitler? May I ask my friends in the Congress Benches? Let us find out. This is a specific offence against the nation and the country. The Defence of India Rules are quite clear on the subject. It says:

Any person who delivers any postal article for transmission either by indirect route or otherwise in such manner as is calculated to evade examination by a censor shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to five years or with fine or with both."

I should say some police officer in Calcutta did some work and this young man was taken into custody, taken to Lal Bazar police headquarters and interrogated for long hours. Our information is that their house was searched. If Government deny that the house was searched, it is still a more serious matter, because I want to ask why it was not done. Then the pressure came from the top and everything was dropped. We opposed detention without trial. But we have seen how 78 year old Parliamentarian Syed Badrudduja was arrested and detained under the MISA for one year and after that he was again arrested. But in one year's time no charge-sheet was given. Only five per cent of the smugglers are caught, and this is also a case like that.

Then, we want to know from the hon. Minister what remuneration this Anand Bazar Patrika has been getting. This boy has been getting in foreign exchange from the American counterparts. We want to know, because there are frequent trips to America and other foreign countries, and lavish living with their wives and aides. We want to know where they find money from. We know they always maintain Shikandies in different countries where they say "We have a London office; a New York office, and an Amsterdam office." Under that

Shikandy's garb, they go on taking money and they go on enjoying themselves outside. We want the full details of the number of officers, the cost and the foreign exchange sanctioned.

This paper has got a very inglorious past. You know the role of a newspaper in every country, is to educate the masses, elevate the idea of the masses, and unless newspaper-owners are true patriots and have true integrity, they can ruin the country. This House must judge today and now, whether the present ownership, although mostly Government-financed, can be allowed to handle and continue in the ownership or a Commission of Inquiry should be instituted and the paper taken over under a trust.

They have a unique record of black-marketing. Only the other day, they were caught redhanded while black-marketing 4,322 maunds of newsprint at more than double the price. Here is a letter from the Minister which says:

"Please refer to your letter dated so and so, regarding the misuse of newsprint by Anand Bazar Patrika and Hindustan Standard. This happened. After a detailed enquiry, it was decided to effect a reduction from the quota for the subsequent years the quantity of newsprint found to have been misused and to debar them from obtaining licence . . ."

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT): Sir, may I ask a clarification from you? My hon. friend asked a question and the Government gave a reply. Then he said the reply is incomplete, is not up-to-date and is evasive. Now, he is raising matters which are not in the main question at all. I cannot possibly off-hand answer the points he has raised. But it goes on record, and they got publicised. It is fair to anybody?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would request Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu to be relevant to the point and kindly confine himself to the points which arise out of the Unstarred Question No. 1232. If there are ancillary points, I would request him not to bring them, because otherwise he would not be able to get an exact reply.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I submit that he can reply as far as possible. About the rest, we have many times got the replies from the Ministers, because, the paper's entire background should be made known. If you will kindly allow me a few more minutes; thank you very much.

"...for the import of new printing machinery etc."

That is the background of this paper.

Then, who does not know about this newsprint racket? Pious inspectors are sent from Delhi. They get cash plus pleasures. We want to know; whenever it is convenient Government can tell us and lay it on the Table why no prosecution was instituted against Anand Bazar Patrika. Although they were caught redhanded in indulging in black money in newsprint, why their allotment was not totally stopped? How many times have their godowns been inspected for physical verification during the last 10 years? Where did those inspectors stay; who provided the transport, whether they stayed in luxurious hotels and who had paid for them; and the personal assets of these newsprint inspectors must be examined by the Government.

It is an open secret that this country is flooded with blackmarketing in newsprint. The Chief Minister of West Bengal had announced—

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member's time is up.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU. I usually get 15 minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no 10 minutes. We have four Members wanting to put questions under the rule 55(5). Please co-operate with me. You may have two minutes more.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Four minutes, because already two or three minutes have been taken up by the Minister. Now, the hon. Chief Minister of West Bengal said that anybody who defaults in provident fund money, any employer, will be punished under the MISA. Mr. Khadilkar said that severe punishment will be inflicted on those who misappropriate provident money.

The Congress resolution says that they should be hanged by the nearest lamp post. Where are the lam posts today? The newspaper owners sermonise from the top of the dais, Anand Bazar Patrika was caught misappropriating Rs. 13.42 lakhs. It was a very recent thing. It was the money of the employees. We want to know what steps have been taken against them. For years together the E.S.I. deposits, L.I.C. salary savings, Co-operative loans cuts from salary, all these things were there. The auditors also had been de-licensed and prosecuted before the High Court. They also swallowed the money from the Rabindra Memorial Fund, about Rs. 10 lakhs. It is a family concern of a few people and I shall read out from the statement of the Press Registrar; Asoke Kumar Sarkar Aloka Sarkar, Aveek Kumar Sarkar, Arup Kumar Sarkar and Adhip Kumar Sarkar. They are the Anand Bazar Patrika Private Limited, they are the directors. That is really diffusion of ownership, father and sons. What happened to the small newspaper Finance Corporation? That is how public money is being given. The loans outstanding for payment from nationalised banks to the Ananda Bazar Patrika is to the tune of about Rs. 70 lakhs. It was given in reply to my question. There is no fixed date for the repayment of this loan.

With Government money and with people's money these persons are creating havoc in the country and are acting as agents of the most unfriendly countries.

I regret to say that the Hon. Prime Minister had chosen to go to the Golden Jubilee Ceremony, Perhaps she was not aware of these things at that time. When Dr. Rajaram Mohan Roy's 150th Birth centenary was celebrated she could not attend for want of time. This is a matter of deep regret. I want to say that the whole thing should be laid on the table of the House and a Commission be constituted and thorough enquiry be instituted. Government should create a trust and take over the ownership of the newspaper because most of the money of this newspaper belongs to the Government.

SHRI GADADHAR SAHA (Birbhum): I want to know from the Minister whether the Government knows the details of the Asia News Service and if so what they are.

SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GO-SWAMI (Nabadwip): I want to know from the hon. Minister the number of persons invited to United States in the last five years from Ananda Bazar Patrika and the reasons thereof.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA (Vishnupur): I want to know whether at any time Ananda Bazar Patrika had been searched and if so the details.

DR. SARADISH ROY (Bálpur): I want to know whether the Director Abhik Sarkar was taken to Lal Bazar police station at Calcutta for interrogation on some allegations or whether he was examined by the Central Police for this allegation or any other allegation and if so what has been the outcome of those interrogations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT): I tried to raise the point while my friend was speaking.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Whatever he can cover in the reply, he may. Whatever he cannot cover now, we can get later. We have been able to obtain such replies from the Ministers. I understand that for the Home Minister to cover Information and Broadcasting, Foreign Exchange and so many other things is not possible. I have not lost sight of that fact.

SHRI K. C. PANT: I am glad he has not lost sight of it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He accepts their irrelevance.

SHRI K. C. PANT: That makes his reference all the more culpable. Knowing full well that I will not be able to answer he puts certain questions which go on record. Is it fair? That is a point I was raising.

I had carefully seen the question which he had raised on 22-11-1972 and the question is whether, recently, the Calcutta residence of a director of Ananda Bazar Patrika Private Limited, Calcutta was raided by the Police; and whether in the course of the said raid the Police recovered certain papers, etc.

"Whether the Director was taken in police custody on charges of sending anti-Indian despatches to the U.S. Papers during the last Indo-Pakistani war; and if so, the main features thereof?"

The reply was,

"According to information received from the State Government in May, 1972, neither the house nor the office of Shri Abhik Sarkar was searched by the Police. Further developments, if any, are being ascertained from the State Government."

The reason for giving this reply was, although the question was tabled in November, an earlier question had

been tabled in May when the Bengal Government had given us some information, which we had supplied in answer to the original question. We did not get a reply in time to this question. So, instead of saying we are collecting information, we repeated the information available with us. He objected that it was not up to date. The objection is well taken, but there is no question of evasion. We have stated clearly in the reply that according to the information supplied by the State Government in May, 1972, this is the position. After receiving his notice, we again enquired from the State Government as to whether any such raid had taken place or any director had been taken into police custody. According to the information sent to us, no such raid or arrest was referred to in the question asked by my hon. friend just now was made by the State police authorities. This is the information sent to us by the State Government as on 25th November, 1972. We have again confirmed this following the notice given by the hon. member. Therefore, the allegation by the hon. member that the reply was evasive is certainly unjustified. The basis on which he is proceeding, viz., there was a raid, certain papers were recovered, etc., is not correct.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: It has come out in the press and it has not been contradicted.

SHRI K. C. PANT: I am giving the information given to me by the State Government. I do not know what is the basis for the whole question. According to the information given by the State Government, the raid did not take place.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You are bent on shielding them.

SHRI K. C. PANT: It is not a question of shielding them. It is a question of fact.

MR CHAIRMAN He has read out the question and the answer. It says:

"Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu to raise a discussion on points arising out of the answer given on the 22nd November, 1972 to Unstarred Question No. 1252 regarding raid on the residence of a Director of Ananda Bazar Patrika, Calcutta."

Kindly don't interrupt.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I hate to interrupt. But interruption is within my right. We have categorically asked whether a telex message was sent without going to the censor and whether a director was interrogated at Ananda Bazar or any other police station.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing which is not relevant to the raid need be answered by the minister.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You occupy the Chair once in a blue moon and you say like this!

SHRI K. C. PANT: That means, since no raid has taken place, I really cannot say anything. In consideration of your ruling, I think I should stop here

17.50 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, December, 4, 1972/Agrahayana 13, 1894 (Saka)