

(a) whether it is a fact that India has been denied admission to the South-East Asian Economic Ministers' Conference scheduled to be held in Bangkok in April, 1969;

(b) if so, the grounds on which admission has been denied to India;

(c) whether any country has also been denied admission to the conference; and

(d) the reaction of Government in regard thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) to (d) : India is not a member of the South East Asian Ministerial Conference for Economic Cooperation. The question of denial of admission does not therefore arise. She was invited as an Observer to the Conference held in Singapore in 1968. However, no invitation has been received so far for the Conference scheduled to be held in Bangkok this month.

Export of Diamonds

5152. SHRI MAHANT DIGVIJAI NATH : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the export of diamonds has increased during the last two years;

(b) if so, the total value of foreign exchange earned by the export of this item;

(c) the names of the countries which are the main buyers of this item;

(d) whether its export is made after meeting the domestic demand; and

(e) whether these diamonds are exported in raw condition or in finished form ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) During the years 1966-67, 1967-68 and 1968-69 (April, 1968-November, 1968) exports of diamonds are as follows:-

Year	Value in Lakhs of Rs.
1966-67	1124 (Post Dev.)
1967-68	1572 („)
1968-69 (Upto Nov. '68)	1843 („)

(c) The main markets for diamond exports from India are Belgium, Hongkong, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Switzerland, U.K. and U.S.A.

(d) Diamonds are not considered as an essential item of consumption and therefore, export policy for diamonds is without reference to indigenous demand.

(e) Cut and polished diamonds are exported; export of rough diamonds is not encouraged as the material is in short supply and the export requirements are met by imports.

12.02 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Statement of Shri Shankaracharya of Puri and his reported insult to the National Anthem

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SALVE (Betul) : Sir, before I call the attention of the hon. Home Minister, it is my duty to point out a very serious lapse of your Secretariat Yesterday, one of the officials of the Lok Sabha Secretariat came and told me that you have rejected this calling-attention notice. Accidentally this morning I was surprised to find it here. I thought, it was my duty to point this out to you.

MR. SPEAKER : This is good news for you.

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SALVE ; I hope, it is equally good for you also. You would like to correct your Secretariat.

MR. SPEAKER : There is nothing wrong. On the previous day it might have been rejected. The next day five Members came and pleaded again and it was admitted the next day. You must have got the reply on the basis of the previous day's decision. Now, please go ahead with your calling-attention notice.

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SALVE : Thank you.

I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:-

The reported statement of Shri Shankaracharya of Puri on March 29, 1969 at the session of the World Hindu Conference at Patna that untouchability was in harmony with the tenets of Hinduism and no law could stand in its way, and his reported insult to the National Anthem.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Shame, shame.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to information furnished by the State Government, the Shankaracharya of Puri had, while speaking on March 29, 1969 at the International Convention of World Hindus at Patna, stated that untouchability was not wrong. He also walked out of the meeting when the singing of the National Anthem started.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Shame, shame.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur) : I would like to know whether he has been arrested.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Lakkappa's name is not there.

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH (Rohtak) : It is a cognisable offence. He should be put behind the bars.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : It is amazing

that such antiquated and irrational views have been expressed ... (Interruption). I am confident that no responsible citizen ... (Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER : May I request all of you to sit down ? It is impossible to hear anything. If some of you do not want to hear, it is a different matter. But the House is anxious to hear.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : It is amazing that such antiquated and irrational views should have been expressed. I am confident that no responsible citizen will attach the slightest value to a statement of this kind which goes against the fundamental principles of our Constitution. The House would, I am sure, unreservedly condemn not only these view of Shri Shankaracharya but also his act of disrespect to the National Anthem.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Salve. (Interruptions) All of you must sit down. Mr Salve, only nobody else.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE (Bombay Central) : May I crave your indulgence ? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Only Mr. Salve, nobody else. I cannot call anybody except Mr. Salve. It should go in a regular way.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : I crave your indulgence for a minute.

MR. SPEAKER : Will you kindly sit down ? My first preference is to Mr. Salve. Mr. Salve.

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SALVE : Sir, on the previous evening, before his departure to Patna, Dr. Karan Singh told me that he was going to attend the World Hindu Conference at Patna because, in such conferences, reactionary forces invariably muster sufficient strength not only to destroy the Hindu society but also destroy the Indian society as such. I never realised that his observation would be so prophetic.

Sir, the pages of our history are replete with instances of persecution of the weak,

[Shri Narendra Kumar Salve]

the poor and the downtrodden at the hands of the religious heads; and the diabolical lucubration of Shri Shankaracharya in Patna, once again, brings home the realisation that untouchability, though considered a heinous crime in our country, is still, none-the-less practised by a large number of people with absolute unabashed impunity. It only shows that the Directive Principles in the Constitution regarding untouchability have merely embellished the pages of our Constitution and that the pernicious system and practice of untouchability still continues. However, I do realise the audacity of Shri Shankaracharya in publicly propagating a precept which is practised in private by so many millions of them. That is because he was not a politician and he propagated a precept like that.

SHRI S. KUNDU (Balasore) : He is a politician. What else is he ? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SALVE : I correct myself. Because he was not a crafty-enough politician, he said it publicly.

Now, if we do not merely want to pay lip-service to soothen the hurt and injury which is caused to our own kith and kin who are described as untouchables, I should like to know from the hon. Home Minister, firstly, whether he will take up the matter with the Bihar Government and prosecute Shri Shankaracharya . . .

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Hear, hear!

SHRI UMANATH (Pudukkottai) : Put him behind the bars.

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SALVE : . . . under the provisions of I. P. C. for making an inflammatory speech which is likely to disturb the public peace and/or under Section 7 (1) (c) of the Untouchability (Offences) Act of 1955 and, secondly, whether he will bring forward a suitable legislation without any delay which should make the practice and propagation of untouchability, either privately or publicly, a cognizable offence punishable with public whipping . . .

SHRI UMANATH : Let it be practised on Shri Shankaracharya first.

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SALVE : . . . so that Shri Shankaracharya and others like him who propagate "varnavyavastha" are publicly whipped and the necessity of this august House shedding tears is obviated.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : The hon. Member has described the way the whole thing started. I must say, our colleague, Dr. Karan Singh, deserves our admiration for having taken a very correct stand.

I entirely share the feeling of anger of the hon. House. I am going to take up the matter with the Bihar Government . . .

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra) : Which Government ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Bihar Government.

About the matter of treating it as an offence, I think, there is already an Act of Parliament which treats this as an offence. About the matter of whipping, etc. it is a suggestion for consideration.

श्री सूरज भान (अम्बाला) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी दो दिन पहले इस हाउस में इसी सम्बन्ध में आदरणीय अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी ने अपने भाषण में जो कुछ कहा था, उस को सुनने के बाद मेरी जुबान से वेअस्तिथार उद्गार का एक शेर निकलता है—

हर ज़रम पर रख दी है,
मुहब्बत ने जुबान आज,
सदियों से दबाये हुए गम बोल उठे है ।

अभी कुछ अर्सा पहले तामिलनाडू के एक आदमी ने भारत के कांस्टीट्यूशन को दियासलाई लगा कर जलाया था और हिन्दुस्तान भर में उस के खिलाफ एक तूफान उठ गया था। आज श्री शंकराचार्य ने मजहब के जहरीले तेजाब से कांस्टीट्यूशन को जलाने की कोशिश की है। मैं

जानना चाहता हूँ कि उन के खिलाफ क्या एक्शन लिया जायगा।

दूसरे-साल्वे साहब ने अनटचेबिलिटी एक्ट को कोट किया है। मैं यह कहता हूँ कि उन्होंने कांस्टीचूशन की धारा 17 को भी वायलेट किया है, ताज्जीराते-हिन्द की धारा 151 और 153 को भी वायलेट किया है। इतना ही नहीं-न सिर्फ देश की इन्ट्रेशन को नुकसान पहुँचाया है, बल्कि हिन्दूधर्म को-जिसका वह अपने आपको ठेकेदार समझते हैं-भी नुकसान पहुँचाया है-जो न सिर्फ देश को खतरा है, बल्कि हिन्दू धर्म को भी खतरा है। इस सिलसिले में मैं मंत्री महोदय से कुछ स्पेसिफिक सवाल पूछना चाहता हूँ-

अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस देश की तमाम सियासी जमायतों ने हरिजनों और आदिवासियों के लिये अपना हमदर्दी का ख्याल जाहिर किया है। मैं यकीन कर लेता हूँ कि उन के दिल में हमदर्दी होगी। लेकिन बदकिस्मती की बात है कि इस देश में धार्मिक विचार के जो लोग हैं, 60 फीसदी से ज्यादा आबादी उन महाधीशों की बातों को मानती है। इस लिये मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार कोई ऐसी कानूनी व्यवस्था करने जा रही है, जिसके जरिये ऐसे मठाधीशों या धर्म के ठेकेदारों के खिलाफ, जो हरिजनों और आदिवासियों के खिलाफ देश में नफरत फैलाते हैं, कानूनी तौर पर कोई कार्य-वाही की जा सके ?

दूसरे उन्होंने जो शास्त्रों का विवरण दिया है, मैं भी यहां पर स्वामी विवेकानन्द और स्वामी दयानन्द को कोट कर सकता हूँ। उन्होंने कहा है कि ऐसा किसी भी शास्त्र में नहीं है। इसलिए जो कोई भी ऐसी बातें कहते हैं उनके अपने मनमाने बनाये हुए शास्त्र होंगे। इसलिए मैं चाहूँगा कि उनके ऊपर पाबन्दी लगाई जाये।

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I entirely agree with the hon. Member's sentiment in the matter. About that amendment, certainly it will have to be examined; certainly we propose to examine the matter from this point of view.

About Sastras, I am not an authority. Even if it is there in the Sastras, these are not Sastras meant for us.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND (Chikodi): At the outset I congratulate Dr. Karan Singh because he has shown what these Shankaracharyas should do in the interest of religion; that too in the midst of reactionaries, he has shown his boldness. Here is the Home Minister who is also equally bold. He had put one Shankaracharya behind the bars. I do not know why he is hesitating to put this Shankaracharya behind the bars... (Interruption) I do not know whether Government is aware of the legal position. If it is aware I do not know why there should be any hesitation. Are they not aware of Article 17 of the Constitution? Are they not aware of the Untouchability (Offences) Act? For the benefit of the House, I would read out the particular section of the Act.

Section 7 (c) of the Act says:

“Whoever by words, either spoken or written, or by signs or by visible representations or otherwise, incites, or encourages any person or class of persons or the public generally to practise ‘untouchability’ in any form whatsoever:

shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to 6 months.”

So there are legal provisions. (Interruptions) We shall presume that either the authorities have become powerless or the laws have become impotent. Otherwise, there is no reason for the Shankaracharya to roam about in the country preaching all this nonsense. When it is passing through difficult times. Here is a man who does not know the Constitution, here is a man who has defied the law of the land, here

[Shri B. Shankaranand]

is a man who has defied the decision of the National Integration Council.

MR. SPEAKER : Come to the question now.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : May I know whether this Government before that I wish to bring to the notice of the House that there is one Hindu Religious Endowments Commission which was set up in 1960. It has submitted its report. In that it has said that these Shankaracharyas are ..

MR. SPEAKER ; You said 'May I know from the Government', You went back on that, I think. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I do not wish to read the whole of it. It says that usually the Shankaracharyas appoint their successors from their own kith and kin and who have no knowledge about the tenets of the religion. So the Commission has suggested that there should be some training classes for these religious heads. (*Interruptions*) And they should be appointed by Government, Last time when there was a talk about the Gobardhan Shankaracharya about whom a question was raised, the Home Minister said ' We are not appointing Shankaracharyas and we cannot take any action'. Here is a man who deserves condemnation and who has defied the law of the land. The law of the country should be allowed to take its own course. Otherwise the people of this country will take law in their own hands. Let me remind this hon House that these scriptures were once burnt openly by Dr. Ambedkar. He said that these are the scriptures which are creating difference between man and man. May I know whether this Government will take up the cause of the Harijans with the Bihar Government and see that the Shankaracharya is put behind the bars or else the people of this country will pull him down, trample him and hang him.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I have already answered the question. We will take up the matter with the Bihar Government.

SHRI S. KUNDU : One thing is very important. We have not heard the answer. We just heard that he will take up the matter with the Bihar Government. Can he tell us whether the Bihar Government taken any action ?

श्री तुलसीदास जाधव (बारामती) : अध्यक्ष महोदय 29 तारीख को जगद्गुरु का विश्व हिन्दू सम्मेलन में भाषण हुआ, पुरी के शंकराचार्य ने क्या कहा है वह मैं आप को सुनाता हूँ

"The Jagadguru stoutly defended untouchability on the ground that it was personal right. He said, a man had the right to consider himself an untouchable and keep away from others.

This, in his opinion, was not unlawful because it could not be construed as practising untouchability in relation to others. He was prepared to minister to the needs of a Harijan but he reserved the right to take a bath after fulfilling the task."

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Sir, the man should be arrested and aid on the Table.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M. R. KRISHNA) : Don't pollute the Table.

श्री तुलसीदास जाधव : यहां जो उस वक्तव्य के बारे में विचार व्यक्त किये गये उन को आप ने सुना। उस के बाद वह क्या उत्तर देते हैं वह भी सुनने लायक है। एक तारीख का इन्टरव्यू है हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स में। मैं पढ़ कर इसलिये सुना रहा हूँ कि सरकार सोच ले कि वह कितने फर्म हैं अपने विचार में। फिर सरकार ने ऐक्शन क्यों नहीं लिया।

"Hinduism accepts untouchability and considers some people to be born un-touchables, Jagadguru Shankaracharya of Govrdhan Peeth, Puri said here

yesterday and as such, he added, in his capacity as Shankaracharya 'I cannot possibly go back upon what the Shastras hold.'

The Jagadguru who was talking to Pressmen said nobody could take away his right to stand by the Hindu scriptures on the issue of untouchability.

He said he was a law-abiding citizen and he would not violate the law of untouchability. But he said : I have every right to honour my religion as well as the law. This is my stand and the Government can take any action it likes. If it wants it can hang me "

MR. SPEAKER : You are not giving any sensational news. All of us have read the news. Please come to the question.

श्री तुलशोदास जाधव : अध्यक्ष महोदय यह बड़ा इम्पोर्टेन्ट सवाल है। मैं सविधान का सेवेन्टीन्य आर्टिकल पढ़ कर सुनाता हूँ :

Untouchability is abolished and its practice in any form is forbidden. The enforcement of any disability arising out of Untouchability shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law.

मेरा कहना यह है, और जो गोलवालकर जी गुरु माने जाते हैं (व्यवधान)

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय इसे वापस लिया जाय। (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER : Will you all kindly sit down ? A point of order has been raised by Shri Joshi.

श्री शशि भूषण (सारगोन) : इन्होंने कोई श्री गोलवालकर के सम्बन्ध में गलत बात नहीं कही इसलिए पौड्ट आफ आर्डर का कोई सवाल नहीं है।

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी (भोपाल) : यह ध्यानाकर्षण प्रस्ताव है। शंकराचार्य के वक्तव्य पर। उसके साथ परम पूजनीय गोलवालकर जी का नाम जोड़ना (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER : He is the Deputy Leader of his Party. Let him say.

श्री शशि भूषण : यह शंकराचार्य से भी ज्यादा है।

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी : मैं गुरु जी के विचार स्वयं जानता हूँ। (व्यवधान)

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (उज्जैन) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इन्हें चुप कीजिये। और अगर नहीं करेंगे तो हम भी चुप नहीं होंगे।

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी : गलत बातें यहां कहना ठीक नहीं है। गोलवालकर जी छूआछूत पर भरोसा नहीं करते। हिन्दू धर्म और शास्त्र भी इसमें विश्वास नहीं करते। शंकराचार्य के व्यक्तिगत विचार हो सकते हैं। किन्तु शंकराचार्य के साथ गोलवालकर जी का नाम जोड़ना ठीक नहीं है। यदि किसी को शास्त्रार्थ करना है तो मैं स्वयं उस के लिये तैयार हूँ। I do not want to depend upon anybody(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not talk across. Then there is some danger.

श्री अशोक लाल बेरवा (कोट) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इन को चैलेन्ज करता हूँ कि मेरे 6 लड़के हैं और अगर ये कोई भी लड़की देने को तैयार हों तो मैं अपने लड़कों से शादी करने के लिये तैयार हूँ। (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER : Many of you are repeating the same thing over and over again ... (Interruptions)

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : आप अध्यक्ष महोदय, इन को चुप कराइये। अगर यह चिल्लायेंगे तो हम भी चिल्लायेंगे।

SHRI S. A. DANGE (Bombay Central South) : It will be better if the Home Minister gives a copy of the interview that Guruji has given... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Will you kindly sit down ? The Calling Attention Notice is very clear. It is about Shri Sankaracharya's statement. Now, there are many others in this country who hold the same views. But we are not going to bring in all those names here. The point is about Shri Sankaracharya and his views. Yesterday or the day before, the leader of the Jan Sangh, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee made a very categorical statement on Shri Sankaracharya's views about Harijans and he has condemned it on the floor of the House. If anybody else is holding such views or if there are other people who are holding such views, that has to be taken up separately and that cannot be mixed up with this. So, Shri Golwalkar and others cannot be taken up now. As I have said, there may be a number of others in the country who have got similar views, reactionary views.

Just now, proposal has been made by Shri S. M. Banerjee that the Shankaracharya must be brought and placed on the Table of the House. But I honestly feel that he cannot be placed on the Table of the House because you cannot touch him, but I would permit his being placed under the Table, if there is no objection.

श्री तुलसीदास जाधव : अध्यक्ष महोदय, आपका कहना मैं मान लेता हूँ। मैंने इसलिए कहा था कि बजट के ऊपर जो भाषण किया, उस के अन्दर गोलवलकर गुरुजी का भाषण मैंने पढ़ कर सुनाया। (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER : After my ruling, the hon. Member is again spoiling the whole atmosphere. He is not helping us at all by his observations now.

श्री तुलसीदास जाधव : मैं आपका कहना मान लेता हूँ। मेरा कहना यह है कि यह जो शंकराचार्य ने अपने भाषण में कहा, वह मैंने पढ़कर बताया। तो अपने विचार इस देश के कानून के अनुसार न करते हुए, एक विषय समाज में फैलाते हैं और इसका परिणाम इतना बुरा होता है कि यू० पी०, बिहार, आन्ध्र,

मध्य प्रदेश और महाराष्ट्र में हरिजनों की तकलीफ होती है। मध्य प्रदेश में 'ढोर, गंवार, चमार, ये ताड़न के अधिकारी' ऐसा स्लोगन देकर हरिजनों को परेशान करते हैं। आज गरीब और एकेनामिकली बेकवर्ड ब्लासेज के के लोगों के खिलाफ विष फैलाते हैं। मैं होम मिनिस्टर साहब से यह विनती करता हूँ कि वे इस बात को देखें कि इस प्रकार से कहने वाले और प्रचार करने वाले जो लोग हैं ऐसा न करें। कानून को तोड़कर वे प्रचार करते हैं और प्रचार करने के बाद वे उस पर डटे रहते हैं। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार इस तरह के लोगों के ऊपर, जोकि ऐसी हवा फैलाते हैं, एक्शन लेने को तैयार हैं या नहीं हैं ? क्या वजह है कि जिस तरह से देश में यह विष फैला रहे हैं, उनको रोका न जाए ?

दूसरी बात यह है कि जनसंघ की जहाँ तक बात है, उनके विचार हमारे विचार में कोई ... (व्यवधान)। वे चाहे किसी भी विचार के हों मैं सरकार से कहना चाहता हूँ कि तुरन्त एक्शन ले कर वह इन शंकराचार्य को गिरफ्तार करें और केस चलाएँ।

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I entirely agree with the hon. Member that what the Shankaracharya is saying is not merely illegal but is, really speaking, creating a very dangerous situation in the country....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU (Diamond Harbour) : Why has he not prosecuted him so far ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I would like to tell the hon. Member that I am not less angry about it than anybody else. I certainly would like to take action, but I must be permitted by law to take action....

SHRI K. ANIRUDHAN (Chirayinki) : Is not the existing provision of law sufficient for this purpose ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I am taking the matter up firmly with the Bihar Government.

श्री शिकरे (पंजिम) : अध्यक्ष जी, हिन्दुस्तान भर में ऐसी एक परम्परा, एक प्रथा है कि जहां जहां शंकराचार्य जैसे धर्म गुरु जाते हैं तो उनकी कर्तल ध्वनि से त्रिवार जयजयकार किया जाता है। मैं कहूंगा कि जब जहां जहां पुरी के शंकराचार्य जाएं वहां वहां उनका त्रिवार धिंकार हो जाए। वे कहते हैं कि अस्पृश्यता धर्मसम्मत है, धर्म का मूल आधार है। ऐसा कोई सच्चा धर्म गुरु नहीं निकेलगा जो यह कहे कि अस्पृश्यता धर्म सम्मत है। हां, अभी ऐसे धर्मगुरु या आचार्य या स्वामी भारत में जरूर निकलेंगे कि वे जोर जोर से कहेंगे कि अस्पृश्यता धर्म तत्व पर आधारित है, उसका आस्थाधार है।

गांधीजी ने एक परिषद बुलाई थी। उस परिषद में बड़े बड़े धर्म गुरु आए थे, शंकराचार्य आए थे स्वामी आये थे, और उन्होंने कहा था कि अस्पृश्यता धर्म सम्मत नहीं है। मैं इस मुद्दे में नहीं जाना चाहूंगा। मैं एक ही सवाल करूंगा कि अस्पृश्यता मानव जाति पर कलंक है या नहीं? मेरा प्रश्न यह भी है कि ऐसा स्टेटमेंट देना, ऐसा वक्तव्य करना आज की परिस्थिति में क्या व्यवहार्य है, चातुरता का लक्षण है? और जो कार्य विवेकानन्द जी, गांधी जी ने, सावरकर जी ने और आद्य शंकराचार्य ने किया, वह नष्ट हो सकता है? जो वक्तव्य पुरी के शंकराचार्य ने दिया, उसमें एक बात हमें देखनी पड़ेगी कि शंकराचार्य या दूसरे धर्म गुरु ऐसे स्टेटमेंट क्यों करते हैं? मुझे यह कहना है कि भारत में यह बात पहली दफा ही एक शंकराचार्य से नहीं कही गई है, बल्कि 1929 में आरदापीठ के शंकराचार्य ने भी ऐसा स्टेटमेंट किया था और उस टाइम स्वातंत्र्य वीर सावरकर जी ने उसका प्रखर विरोध किया था। तो मैं यह

कहूंगा कि इस विद्यमान परिस्थिति में जब देश में सर्वज्ञेय में अशांति, असंतोष, फैला हुआ है, क्या इस तरह का वक्तव्य देना व्यवहार्य होगा? तो मैं समझता हूँ कि शंकराचार्य जैसे धर्म गुरु धर्म के रक्षक नहीं बल्कि धर्मद्रोही है। देश रक्षक नहीं, देशद्रोही है।

एक माननीय सदस्य : बदमाश है।

श्री शिकरे : मुझे याद आता है कि स्वर्गस्थ डाक्टर अम्बेदेकर ने एक वक्तव्य में कहा था कि भारत में जो 9 करोड़ अस्पृश्य हैं वे 9 करोड़ अग्र दूसरे धर्मों में चले जाएं क्रिश्चियन धर्म में चले जाएं या मुसलमान धर्म में, तो फिर यहां भारत में क्या होगा? मैं उनका जवाब नहीं दूंगा लेकिन एक ही बात कहकर अपना भाषण समाप्त करूंगा। अध्यक्ष जी, कैथोलिक रिलीज के धर्मगुरु पोप ने संतान नियमन के बारे में, फैमिली प्लानिंग के बारे में जब ब्यान दिया, वक्तव्य किया, कि संतान प्रतिबंधक उपाय योजना धर्म बाह्य है तब कैथोलिक जगत में हाहाकार मच गया, क्षोभ हो गया। और लक्षावधि इसाइयों ने कहा कि हम वह आदेश नहीं मानेंगे। ऐसी परिस्थिति पुरी के शंकराचार्य के बारे में अब भारत में पैदा होना चाहिए। मैं यह चाहूंगा कि स्वामी जी के ऊपर मुकदमा जरूर चलाया जाए लेकिन मुकदमा चलाने के ही बाव यह परिस्थिति काबू में आ सकती है क्या? मेरा सवाल तो यही होगा कि ऐसे जो प्रश्नों का निर्माण होता है, क्या वे कायदे काटून से सुलभ सकेंगे। मैं समझता हूँ कि ऐसे जो प्रश्न आते हैं, उसके लिए जनमत निर्माण करने का प्रयत्न करना पड़ेगा। क्या वह जनमत तैयार करने के लिए इस सदन के सदस्य तैयार हैं या नहीं और हमारी सरकार सदस्यों को सुविधायें देने को तैयार है या नहीं? मैं समझता हूँ कि ऐसी समस्याएँ केवल जनमत तैयार करने से ही सुलभाई जा सकती है।

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : As far as the views are concerned, our views are very clear on this matter

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY (Kandra para) : That is the view of the whole House also.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur) : He is only delaying matters and protracting it.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : We have always held the view that untouchability is a black spot on our history, on our religion and on our society. Therefore, we have taken a very firm decision that this blot must be removed completely. We have made a law also prohibiting the practice of such things ..

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK (South Delhi) : It is not part of religion.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : That is a part of our law

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK : I said that it was not part of religion.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : It cannot be part of religion. But unfortunately here is a leader of a religion who says that it is part of the religion. That is the worst part of it. It is not merely one Shankaracharya or one thought but really speaking it is the whole antiquated system that needs to be condemned in this matter. That is really speaking the main question.

SHRI AMBAZHAGAN (Tiruchangode) : In view of the unanimous condemnation of the Shankaracharya's view in this House from all sections, more or less from all parties, and also the Home Minister's statement, I would request that this matter be taken up for a full debate

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Yes, yes.

श्री रवि राय (पुरी) : पूरा डिबेट होना चाहिए मैं इस मांग का समर्थन करता हूँ ।

SOME HON. MEMBERS *rose--*

MR. SPEAKER : When I am standing, I become 'deaf' to whatever is said by members.

Already I have got it in writing that there must be a discussion, not of the Shankaracharya affair alone, but untouchability generally. We are going to discuss the Demands of the Department of Social Welfare in two days (*Interruptions*).....

SHRI UMANATH : No, no.

श्री रवि राय : इस पर फुल एंड मीमेट डिबेट होना चाहिए ।

MR. SPEAKER : I have not completed.

SHRI TULSHIDAS JADHAV : Let us have a full debate.

MR. SPEAKER : If hon. Members want a separate discussion....

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Yes, yes.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE *rose--*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Bhandare is on the panel of Chairman. Both of us can not be standing at the same time.

If a separate discussion is required, we will be cutting into the time of the Demands I do not mind it, as we did in the case of a discussion relating to Telengana yesterday. The Business Advisory Committee decided that. I cannot do it myself and push off discussion of the Demands. If the discussion is required after the Demands, there is ample time. Anyway, the Business Advisory Committee meets every week.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Let us sit from 7 P. M. to 9 P. M.

MR. SPEAKER : The question of a separate discussion can be considered in the room, across the table, in the Business Advisory Committee in a more calmer atmosphere. There is no use members shouting about it now.

PAPERS TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE

SHRI PILOO MODY : What is the use of having just a discussion about these matters ? I am sure the House has discussed this many times. The point is whether some action can be taken in the matter.

— — —

12.43 hours.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report and Accounts of
Export Inspection Council

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : I lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report of the Export Inspection Council for the year 1967-68 along with the audited accounts. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-589/69]

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PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Fifth-ninth Report

SHRI M. R. MASANI (Rajkot) : I present the Fifty-ninth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on Audit Report (Civil), 1968, relating to the Cabinet Secretariat (Indian Statistical Institute).

— — —

12.44 hrs.

STATEMENT UNDER DIRECTION 115

Removal of Control on Prices of
B. Twill Bags

श्री मधु लिमये (मुंगेर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे अतारंकित प्रश्न संख्या तीन हजार सात सौ

पन्द्रह का 19 मार्च, 1969 को वैदेशिक व्यापार मंत्री ने जो उत्तर दिया वह असत्य भाषण और गलत बयानी की एक गुत्थी है। इस दलील में कोई दम नहीं कि यह गलत उत्तर कबिना के मंत्री ने नहीं बल्कि वैदेशिक व्यापार मंत्रालय के उप-मंत्री ने दिया।

मैं मन्त्री महोदय से मांग करना चाहता हूँ कि वह अपने गलत बयान को सुघारें, सदन से खेद प्रकट करें और बी-टिवल बैंगज की बोरों की खरीदी को लेकर सरकार तथा निम्न सरकारी एजेंसियों और फुड कारपोरेशन आदि का जो एक करोड़ सत्तासी लाख रुपये का घाटा होने वाला है उस को तत्काल कार्यवाही कर के बचायें।

मैंने सरकार से पूछा था कि क्या बी-टिवल बोरों का दाम नियंत्रण हटाने का सरकार का इरादा है ? मन्त्री महोदय ने कहा कि इस तरह का कोई सुभाव उन के सामने नहीं है। यह सही नहीं है। असल में वैदेशिक व्यापार मन्त्री इस सुभाव पर विचार कर रहे थे, लेकिन मेरे 3 मार्च, 1969 के पत्र के आधार पर वित्त मन्त्रालय ने इस में जो दखल दी उसी को लेकर दाम नियंत्रण को हटाने का सुभाव फिलहाल रद्द कर दिया गया है।

मैंने सरकार से यह भी पूछा था कि उन का ध्यान इस बात की ओर दिलाया गया है कि बिरला और के० पी० गोयंका आदि जूट मिलों के गुट इस आशा से बी-टिवल बोरों की जमाखोरी कर रहे थे कि दाम नियंत्रण हटाने पर उनको ज्यादा मुनाफा मिलेगा ?

मन्त्री महोदय ने स्पष्ट रूप से कहा कि नहीं, उनका ध्यान नहीं दिलाया गया है। लेकिन यह भी सही नहीं है क्योंकि 3 मार्च, 1969 के मेरे खत में मैंने उपप्रधान मन्त्री तथा वित्त मन्त्री के सामने यह बात लाई थी कि दो सौ चालीस