

2. Apart from the above, many Departments of the Government of India, State Governments and the public sector undertakings etc. have their own housing programmes, the details of which are not available.

3. Solution of the colossal shortage of housing in the Country depends upon the availability of funds and developed land. Meanwhile, the Government of India propose to continue all the social housing schemes formulated by this Ministry. The Draft Fourth Five Year Plan provides a sum of about Rs. 97.00 crores for social housing schemes and urban development programmes in the State Sector.

4. In order to tackle the problem progressively and in a realistic manner, it has been decided to build up a Revolving Fund for housing and urban development to be operated through the agency of a Housing and Urban Development Finance Corporation to be set up for the purpose. It is anticipated that over a period of 4 to 5 years, a sum of upto Rs: 200.00 crores will be made available to the Corporation for being utilised on approved schemes of housing, land acquisition and urban development undertaken in the States and Union Territories in a manner that will provide for a rapid turn over of funds. Operations on these lines are planned to start from the year 1970-71.

Resumption of Forward Trading in Shares

1206. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :
SHRI MOHAMMAD SHERIFF :
SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finally decided to permit resumption of Forward Trading in shares in the Stock Exchanges over the country;

(b) if so, the conditions laid down for the purpose; and

(c) if not, whether Government have taken any final decision on the subject ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) to (c). No decision has been taken so far regarding the resumption of forward trading in securities. With a view to assisting Government in coming to a decision in the matter, a Committee consisting of four members has been appointed by a Resolution dated the 7th February, 1970 (published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary on the 7th February, 1970). The Committee has been directed to submit its report to the Government within a period not exceeding two months.

12 hrs.

Re CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

(Query)

SHRI NATH PAI (Rajapur) : Sir, I wrote to you about this. I am very glad that you have been pleased to admit the Calling Attention Notice and provided the House an opportunity to discuss so important a matter. But I want to draw your attention to one thing. I wrote to you twice about it. I am seeking your protection and indulgence to make a submission.

The rights of the House are being deliberately curtailed. I do not know who is responsible. Ten days back I gave notice of a Short Notice Question on the same subject-matter. I was informed just half an hour back that the Minister regrets. On this question you must decide once and for all. Are our rights to depend on our luck in a lottery which is called Calling Attention, or are you going to take notice of the initiative of the Members? If I give a Short Notice Question, it is a superior right; we are supposed to barter away the superior right, waiting for what depends absolutely on the lottery. You know that Calling Attention Notices are balloted.

I gave notice of a Short Notice Question whereby I could elicit all the information. That is not allowed and I informed today after 10 days. I am very glad that the other leaders of the Opposition also agree with

[Shri Nath Pal]

me. You should not leave it to the sweet pleasure and the whims of the Minister concerned whereby he categorically rejects it. Is it not a matter more important than the other matter? I want you to look into the rule regarding Short Notice Question. I want to make a submission. It is true that it is up to the Minister to accept or not to accept a Short Notice Question. But if you in your wisdom are satisfied that the matter is of public importance, you can direct the Minister concerned that the question is taken as the first question of the day. The very fact that you have admitted the Calling Attention shows very clearly that you regard the matter as of public importance and deserving the immediate attention of the House. If that is so, why was not my question admitted as the first question for the day? I think you will give a ruling about this. I am very happy you have admitted the Calling Attention and I must express my gratefulness.

SHRI M. R. MASANI (Rajkot) : Sir, I do not know what the question was, but it has happened in the past also, that although group leaders or responsible Members put a question only to elicit information, the Ministers have not been very fair in exercising their discretion. We know they have discretion but the discretion must be responsibly and reasonably used. If information is wanted for the enlightenment of the House, just to say, "I will not answer at short notice" is not the kind of response one expects in a parliamentary democracy. I think you should use your good offices-

AN HON. MEMBER : To change the rule.

SHRI M. R. MASANI : No, We do not want a change of rule, but we want a change of heart.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (बलरामपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, 20 तारीख से लोक सभा की बैठक हो रही है। अनेक शार्ट नोटिस क्वेश्चन दिए गए लेकिन हम को एक घिसा घिसाया पिटा पिटाया जवाब दे दिया जाता है कि मंत्री महोदय उसे स्वीकार करने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं। मेरा निवेदन है कि इस संबंध

में आप को कुछ विचार करना पड़ेगा, मंत्रियों को तैयार करना पड़ेगा कि वह महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्नों का उत्तर दें। अब जिस प्रश्न पर काल अटेंशन हो सकता है उस पर शार्ट नोटिस क्वेश्चन क्यों नहीं हो सकता है? लेकिन काल अटेंशन में खाली पांच नाम आ जाते हैं। शार्ट नोटिस में अधिक समय मिल सकता है और अन्य सदस्य भी चर्चा कर सकते हैं इसलिए शार्ट नोटिस के बारे में आप फिर से विचार करें यह हमारा निवेदन है।

SHRI NATH PAI : Before you give your ruling, I want to cite the rule—rule 54 at page 26 of the Rules of Procedure—which I quoted from memory. To be precise, so that you can give the correct ruling, I will read it. It says:

"A question relating to a matter of public importance may be asked with notice shorter than ten clear days and if the Speaker is of opinion that the question is of an urgent character he may direct that an enquiry may be made from the Minister concerned if he is in a position to reply and, if so, on what date."

Then, I would like to refer to sub-rule (3) of this rule :

"If the Minister is unable to answer the question at Short notice and the Speaker is of opinion that the question is of sufficient public importance to be orally answered in the House, he may direct that the question be placed as the first question on the list of questions for the day on which it would be due for answer under rule 33."

My question would have been due for answer today even under the normal procedure. I endorse the plea made by Mr. Masani and Mr. Vajpayee. Our rights should not be left to the kind mercies of the Minister; you should not guard him.

MR. SPEAKER : It is a very important point of order that has been raised. So far as short notice questions are concerned, we sort out the questions which we think are

important and worth answering by the minister and we forward them to the minister. Of course, I may be helpless in forcing the minister to answer...

SHRI NATH PAI : You are not.

MR. SPEAKER : So far as the other alternative suggested by Mr. Nath Pai that it may be put down as the first question for the day is concerned, I can examine it. The practice, I am told, is in that case there should be a special request from the member justifying it.

SHRI NATH PAI : How can I do it if I am informed just half an hour back ?

MR. SPEAKER : I am told the Secretariat got the answer only today.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY (Kendrapara) : If after 15 days it is intimated that the minister is not prepared to accept it, the whole purpose is defeated.

श्री मधु लिमय (मुंगरे) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा सुझाव है कि आप नियम समिति की बैठक बुलाइए जिस में इस पर विचार किया जाय ।

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH (Buxar) : If the minister keeps the matter pending for 15 days, the member should not be allowed to suffer on that account.

श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री (हापुड़) : मेरा निवेदन इस संबंध में यह है कि जैसा अभी हमारे मित्र श्री नाथ पै जी ने कहा यह केवल मंत्रियों की दया पर न छोड़ा जाय । शार्ट नोटिस क्वेश्चन जितने भी हों वह अध्यक्ष के पास जाने चाहिए और अध्यक्ष अगर उन को आवश्यक समझता है कि यह सार्वजनिक महत्व के प्रश्न हैं और उन का तत्काल उत्तर आना चाहिए तो आप मंत्रियों को डायरेक्ट करें कि वह फलां दिन इस का उत्तर देने के लिए तैयार हो कर आएँ । मंत्रियों की दया पर इस को नहीं छोड़ा जाना चाहिए और इस नियम में परिवर्तन होना चाहिए ।

SHRI NATH PAI : Why did he take 10 days to inform us that he cannot accept it, when he is already ready with a reply about the same matter ? Just see their arrogance, impertinence and complete contempt for the rights of the house.

SHRI RAJASEKHARAN (Kanakapura) : THE Home Minister has deliberately avoided accepting this question. The very fact that the Prime Minister has been sending a number of officers to Bangalore and Bombay proves that it is a very serious question. I charge the Home Minister of deliberately not accepting it as a short notice question.

MR. SPEAKER : There need not be a debate on this. I will call a meeting of the Rules Committee. We will discuss the matter in detail and find a way out.

SHRI DATTATRAYA KUNTE (Kolaba) : Non-availability of information and unwillingness to answer are two different things. If he pleads non-availability of information, that is another thing. But he cannot disagree because of unwillingness.

MR. SPEAKER : Some ministers are more obliging and others are a little less. DR. K. L. Rao never refuses any question that goes to him. We give about 15 to 20 minutes to the short notice question every day with the result that the zero hour sometimes gets cut a short because of the short notice question. As I said, Dr. Rao is very liberal in accepting short notice questions and I hope the other ministers will also do the same.

SHRI NATH PAI : Is he getting completely scot-free for his negligence this time ? You should at least reprimand him.

MR. SPEAKER : The rules do not permit me to reprimand him. If you amend the rules, I will reprimand him.

SHRI RAJASEKHARAN : Neither the Prime Minister nor the Home Minister is present.

MR. SPEAKER : Let us not have a debate on every point that comes before the House. Now, calling attention. Mr. Joshi.

12.14 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

MYSORE-MAHARASHTRA BORDER
DISPUTE

श्री एस० एम० जोशी (पूना) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं अविलम्बनीय लोक-महत्व के निम्न-लिखित विषय की ओर गृह कार्य मंत्री का ध्यान दिलाता हूँ और प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वे इस बारे में एक वक्तव्य दें :

“सीमा विवाद के हल के लिए मंसूर और महाराष्ट्र सरकारों को प्रधान मंत्री द्वारा दिये गये कथित सुझावों और दोनों सरकारों द्वारा उनकी कथित स्वीकृति”

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI
VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : Mr.
Speaker, Sir, the Mysore-Maharashtra
border dispute has been with us for a very
long time. Many efforts to find an agreed
solution to this dispute did not succeed and
finally a Commission was appointed to go
into this matter in the hope that its
recommendations would provide a satisfactory
basis for a solution. Unfortunately when
the recommendations were published, they
did not evoke the necessary measure of
acceptability. On examining the Commission's
Report we came to the provisional
conclusion that apart from implementing
the positive recommendations of the Commission
regarding transfer of territories from
one State to another, it would be necessary
to make some adjustments so that the entire
problem could be solved.

2. However, before giving further
thought to the matter Government considered
it desirable that the Chief Ministers concerned
should be consulted. Their immediate
reaction has not been encouraging. In a
matter like this there has to be a constructive
approach and Government intend to

continue their efforts to find a satisfactory
solution to the problem.

श्री एस० एम० जोशी : अध्यक्ष महोदय,
माननीय मंत्री ने पहले ही अपने वाक्य में कहा
कि :

“The Mysore Maharashtra border dispute
has been with us for a very long time.”

इस तरह के जो बड़े नाजुक सवाल है वह
बहुत दिनों तक पड़े रहते हैं, सालों तक पड़े
रहते हैं और ऐसे सवालों का फंसला तब होता
है जब कोई न कोई अनशन कर के मर जाय
या दूसरा कुछ हो। इस तरह की घटनायें
होंगी या गोली चलेगी तभी यह गवर्नमेंट हिलती
है। मैं आप को बतलाना चाहता हूँ, कि पिछले
साल बम्बई में जो कुछ हुआ वह इसी सवाल
को ले कर हुआ था और आज भी बम्बई शहर
बन्द होने जा रहा है। मुझे डर लग रहा है
कि वहाँ कोई अवांछनीय चीज़ न हो क्योंकि मैं
नहीं समझता हूँ कि इस रीति से हमारा देश
तरक्की कर सकता है। मेरे मित्र मुझ से पूछ
रहे थे कि बम्बई में जब यह दुःस्थिति है तब
तुम लोग यहाँ क्यों हो ? मैं ने कहा कि मैं
समझता हूँ कि लोकतन्त्रात्मक तरीके से इस
सवाल को हल करना चाहिये और इसी में मेरा
विश्वास है। इस लिये मैं इस चीज़ को उठाने
के लिये यहाँ आया हूँ।

मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि यह सवाल कितने
दिनों से पड़ा हुआ है, और बार बार इस
सम्बन्ध में इस सदन में आश्वासन दिया गया
था या नहीं ? मेरा इस सवाल के साथ व्यक्ति-
गत सम्बन्ध रहा है, कुछ मेरी भी जिम्मेदारी
है। इसी सवाल को प्राथमिकता दे कर मैं
निर्वाचित हो कर यहाँ आया हूँ। इस सदन में
कई बार इस की चर्चा हुई है पर मैं
ने इस पर बोलने की शृष्टता नहीं की
क्योंकि मैं जानता हूँ कि यह बहुत ही
नाजुक सवाल है। मगर जब हुकूमत मार
पीट गोली काण्ड के सिवा कुछ करना ही नहीं