

कदम उठाये गये हैं, उन के बाद इस व्यवस्था में तेजी से सुधार हो सकेगा और इसी लिये विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में लो-वोल्टेज की जो शिकायतें थीं तथा इसी प्रकार की जो अन्य मिलीजुली शिकायतें थीं, उन में काफ़ी कमी हो गई है। यह सही है कि इस में पूरा तरह से सन्तोषजनक स्थिति तब तक उत्पन्न नहीं हो सकती, जब तक कि विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में बिजली की जितनी मांग है, उस की पूर्ति के लिये जितनी बिजली की आवश्यकता है, उतनी बिजली हम पैदा नहीं कर लेते हैं, तब तक हमारी जो लो-वोल्टेज की और अन्य जो कमज़ोरियाँ हैं, वे दूर नहीं हो सकती हैं।

इस के अतिरिक्त मैं माननीय सदस्यों का ध्यान इस बात की ओर आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ कि हम ने अपनी ग्राम विद्युतिकरण योजना के लिये 1965 में राष्ट्रीय विकास परिषद् को जो बँटक हुई थी, उस में नीति निर्धारण के आधार पर जो निर्णय किये गये थे—सिंचाई के साधनों के लिये हम बिजली को प्राथमिकता दें, उसी दृष्टि से सिंचाई के कार्यक्रमों के लिये, पम्पिंग सैटों के लिये बिजली उपलब्ध कराने की दृष्टि से प्राथमिकता दी जा रही है। यह ठीक है कि हम ग्राम विद्युतिकरण के कार्यक्रम को महत्व देते हैं, लेकिन उस से भी ज्यादा महत्व हम सिंचाई के साधनों के लिये, पम्पिंग सैटों के लिये बिजली देना देना है, क्योंकि उस के द्वारा हम अपने देश को खाद्यान्न की दृष्टि से आत्मनिर्भर बना सकेंगे।

इस सम्बन्ध में मैं सदन का ध्यान इस बात की ओर भी आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ—अभी तक हमारे देश में करीब 13 लाख पम्पिंग सैट्स हैं, जिनको बिजली दी जा चुकी है, जब कि तीसरी योजना के अन्त तक ऐसे पम्पिंग सैटों की संख्या, जिन को बिजली दी जा चुकी थी—केवल 5 लाख थी। इस से अन्दाज़ लगाया जा सकता है कि विकास के क्षेत्र में हमारी कितनी प्रगति हुई है और हम उम्मीद करते हैं कि चौथी पंचवर्षीय योजना में हम करीब 15 लाख

पम्पिंग सैटों को बिजली दे सकेंगे तथा इस दिशा में जो प्रगति होगी, वह काफ़ी-कुछ हमारे देश को खाद्यान्न की दृष्टि से आत्मनिर्भर बनाने के लिये सहायक होगी। धन्यवाद।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now we will take up the half-an-hour Discussion.

18.30 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

HIPPIES IN DELHI

SHRI S. R. DAMANI (Sholapur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, many of my friend are surprised that I am raising this subject. In the last session I thought that some of my friends will raise this subject. But I was disappointed. During this session also I found that my colleagues are not taking any interest in raising this subject. So, although it is not my subject, I thought I should raise it in view of the seriousness which the situation may lead us to in case the hippies are allowed to continue in our country as at present.

Now there is an invasion on our country, not by Pakistan or China for grabbing our territory, but by the hippies for attacking the morality of our youngsters which is a very serious and dangerous thing. I think the Government should take serious notice of these hippies who are coming to our country in such large numbers.

Who are the hippies? Why are they coming to our country? What is their number? What is their object? These are important things which we should go into. I have no kind of prejudice against them. But they do not have any moral responsibility and they do not want to work. They are rejected by their family and their country and they are coming to our country. What is their effect on our society, especially on our youngsters?

Previously, they were seen only in Delhi. Now they are spread all over the country. We can see them even in small towns of Goa. They move about in their dirty clothes with their shabby features. They also indulge in anti-social activities. Many a time they have been caught smuggling goods. Most of them are addicted to narcotics. The presence of hippies is certainly having its adverse influence on our youngsters. So, government should take very serious notice of it.

[Shri S. R. Damani]

Pakistan has stopped their entry. Why is it that we alone are silent and we are doing nothing? It is a serious matter. Our youngsters have to work hard and develop our country. They have their social responsibilities. But if our youngsters are allowed to associate themselves with these hippies, they will also try to follow the hippy way of life, which is a very serious thing.

Government should take a very serious view about this and inform the House as to what steps Government proposes to take to prevent the hippies who are coming to our country. What is their intention; what is their number; why is Government allowing them; what are their activities; in how many cases have they been found indulging in unsocial activities—these are things which require attention of Government and about which Government should inform the House.

We want tourists to come to our country. Good people should come and see our historical places, visit our cities, see our industry, social customs and other developments. We would welcome them. But we do not want such people to come to our country and create disaffection among our younger generation. They are affecting our young generation. It is better that some action is taken as soon as possible to stop these unsocial people from visiting our country and affecting more our youngsters. This is a matter which is very serious and requires consideration.

These are the things to which I wanted to draw the attention of Government. I would like that the hon. Minister should enlighten the House about the policy of Government in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, as far as this question of the hippies is concerned, we have for some years past noted an increasing number of such persons coming to India. We were ourselves apprehensive of the effect that they might cause in our society, particularly among the younger generation. We considered this matter from time to time and tried to assess the extent of impact that they might make on our security or social problem or on the university youth or the young persons of impressionable age.

As far as security is concerned, these persons who are normally described as hippies have no relevance. The question of their social and personal morals also is not such a serious one which really should engage the attention of this Parliament. The main thing that we were worried about was their trafficking in illegal drugs and such other things which cause not only physical harm but also mental defects and mental harm to people who consume those drugs and become addicted to them.

We have found that they have been coming to India for various reasons. One reason is that the people of this country are quite tolerant to various modes of life and various kinds of dresses. The amount of social tolerance that we showed towards visitors is something which might have encouraged these people to come to our country. Our country's past traditions and culture have been to welcome and absorb people of all kinds of ideas and also to see that they are not bothered or taken as criminals or hounded as unwanted people. It is wrong to say that most of these Hippies are rejected persons. We have not made any systematic study of this problem. But from my general knowledge, I can say that only persons of a particular mentality or a particular background take to this way of life which we call "Hippy way of life". The persons who come here as Hippies, a good many of them, belong to rich families and they adopt this method, sometimes, temporarily in their life and then they revert back to their normal life after sometime. Therefore, it is not a correct assumption that these are the rejected stuff from their society and they come and try to harm social and personal morals of our boys and girls here.

Another reason why they might be coming here is the comparative cheapness of living. They can stay in a *sarai* or a *dharamshala* and they can, probably, live in a very cheap manner here. As I said, coupled with social tolerance and cheapness of living, this might have encouraged Hippies to come here. As you might have noted, a few years back, I think, in 1968, the Delhi Administration had launched a special drive to check up and see whether these Hippies were carrying on illegal traffic in drugs. Some of them were found carrying on this kind of traffic and they were nabbed and punished according to law. But this menace or this problem has not been of such a magnitude that we can consider the question of banning their entry in the country.

Sir, after this matter was raised in newspapers and also in the form of questions in this honourable House and the other House, we decided to make a more systematic study about the incidence of these people, as to when they come here, what they do, what impact they make on our boys and girls and whether they carry on any illegal trade in narcotics or drugs. This study we hope to complete by the year end. But in the meantime, whatever information we have in our possession does not make us think that any ban should be put on the entry of Hippies.

The hon. Member mentioned the instance of Pakistan. He knows the different attitude we adopt to such social questions and our attitude to such matters is rather different than what they adopt in Pakistan.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Are you going to screen them so that only such people who have got some good background and who come from good families are allowed?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : As far as we are concerned, we are taking the precautions only regarding these three things, namely, firstly, regarding security; secondly, regarding their illegal trade in narcotics and drugs and, thirdly, whether if at all, they make any impact on the morals of our young boys and girls who are of an impressionable age. These are the three things we are worried of. If we can be assured that these things are not affected, then, I do not think anybody will mind any number of Hippies coming and going out of India. We are not one of those countries who will take a very stiff attitude in such matters and try to shut our doors to people who want to come. Sometimes, most of them, as a matter of fact, want to mix up with our people who have spiritual accomplishments. For instance, they go to Banaras; they go to Mysore and many other pilgrimage centres. We do not know and we have not made a study whether they are really making a serious study of or it is just a pastime they are indulging in. But they do go and try to find out what is happening in our religious centres and they go to various centres of pilgrimage.

We have not yet come across any instances where these people pose any danger to the security of the country or they indulge in espionage activities or activities which are against our security.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA (Delhi Sadar) : How do you define a hippy?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : Definition of hippy is not properly done at all and I would say I have given that in answer to various questions here. The foreign nationals who come here, the vagrants who do not conform to commonly accepted modes of dress and manners are normally called hippies.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur) : They have their own philosophy.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA : The number of political hippies is much more in Delhi. We have no norms or principles.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : They do not conform to the normal social standards of dress and manners. Their manners and standards are completely their own. They do not conform to the normal manners.

The main thing I want to say here is that the information that we have at present about these people is not sufficient for the Government to come to a definite conclusion about their impact on the young generation of our country. But we want to make a specific study about this matter and after this study is completed, only then we shall be able to come to a conclusion whether any action on the part of the Government is called for or not.

SHRI S. KUNDU (Balasore) : Mr. Chairman, this is a very important problem. I would at the very outset like to dispel the impression that anybody who grows long hair or moves about without any slipper or shoes or wears certain dress peculiar to us is considered a hippie or anybody who smokes *charas* and other things is considered a hippie. It would be wrong to generalise this sort of younger generation as a class of hippies. This I want to make it very clear.

This is a problem we have to deal with very dispassionately and we have to go in to the depth of it. Why these young people from Europe, America and these affluent countries are coming away more and more to Asian and other countries? What is the reason? The reason is: in short these young people are becoming more and more rebellious against the establishment which has been created by a vested interest in their countries for years and years together. This vested interest is not only of money but have vulgarised the culture and this so called culture, this philosophy, this affluence has brought some sort of frustration in these young men and they are looking out for new things, for fresh things and for better things of life.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please ask a question.

SHRI S. KUNDU: Is the Home Ministry taking all steps? Mr. Damani who was till now discriminating perhaps believes that there are Brahmins and if the shadow of a Harijan falls on a Brahmin, the Brahmin wants to go and take a dip in the river. It is not like that. It is completely a different matter. Protest are coming in greater floods. Unless we diagnose the whole thing, we may not be able to find a solution. The problem has to be studied in greater depth. I know some of them are coming here lured by our philosophy. Some of them come here lured by our music. Some of them come here lured to see Kajuraho. What is wrong in Kamasutra? There is nothing wrong in it. Kamasutra is a scripture produced many years ago.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you assisting the Minister or are you asking some question?

SHRI S. KUNDU: I am asking him to be more thought-provoking next time when he comes to deal with such a subject. Therefore, in short, I would say this. From an assessment which I had from the hon. Minister's speech, I found, he has categorised them into a class of smugglers, into a class of fifth-columnists or such other things. It is completely wrong. I would urge upon the Minister to make a dispassionate study of the sociological problem. Take a sample of say, 500 Hippies, put some questions: why they come? what they see in India? Have they been able to see the soul of India? What they think of us? What they think of our system? And what they have to tell us? . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : That he has promised to do.

SHRI S. KUNDU : No, Sir. He is thinking on Mr. Damani's lines, how to discriminate.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: You did not catch whatever I said (*Interruption*)

SHRI S. KUNDU: So, Sir, let us not have some sort of frontal attack look with annoyance at these people. Let us try to look at them with sympathy, with care. And I would like the investigation or some sort of research to be undertaken to understand their way of life and that would be of profit to our people and to our society also. I will just give one example.

In Amsterdam I saw this when I went about 1½ years back. There were a group of young people who were not Hippies, but those who were against the present established order; they went to a fountain and put some soap there; and I asked what is this funny thing. Finding the soap water coming out they all clapped and said, "we are going to purify this present corrupt society like this, working in the soap water." This is a peculiar idea of doing certain things. They are getting more and more dejected when they see the firing in Vietnam, or oppression in Africa, suffering in Asia etc. and they start rebelling. And some of these people, when they meet us, ask us: when thousands of people are dying in streets, an average Indian and that too MPs and Ministers and all those people who are supposed to represent the people are well to do; and I find the affluent just sprouts, comes out everywhere, right, front, back and everywhere.

Sir, it shows a mind, an indication, how they are thinking about the things which are going on in this country. Therefore, I would request him that there must be a proper study about it and it must be based on certain sociological pattern, not on conventional or traditional way or meddling with law and order. Thank you.

श्री रवि राय (पुरी) : यह विषय रोचक है और साथ साथ गम्भीर भी है। मैं दामानी साहब के साथ कतई तौर पर सहमत नहीं हूँ कि हिप्पी बन कर जो लोग हमारे देश में आते हैं वे गुंडे होते हैं या वहाँ आ कर वे हमारे लिए सिक्योरिटी की समस्या पैदा कर देते हैं। मैं शुक्ल जी से सहमत हूँ कि उनके साथ हम को सहानुभूति रखनी होगी और सहानुभूति का रवैया अपना कर इस समस्या का अध्ययन करना होगा।

उन्होंने बचन दिया है कि हम इस समस्या का अध्ययन करेंगे। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले तीन साल से कितने हिप्पी हमारे देश में आए हैं? उनकी तादाद कितनी है?

जो हिप्पी आ रहे हैं क्या वे इसलिये आ रहे हैं कि पाश्चात्य सभ्यता के खिलाफ उनके मन में विद्रोह है और उस विद्रोह की भावना को वे यहाँ व्यक्त करना चाहते हैं या वहाँ की विलासिता, वैभव और ठाठवाट की जिन्दगी के वे

विरुद्ध हैं ? जब वे यहां आ जाते हैं तो उनके दिमाग में बनारस में गंगा के किनारे आबाद गंगाई लोग जो खाने पीते हैं, उनके दिमाग में उनकी तस्वीर रहती है या हिन्दुस्तान के सच्चे दर्शन और यहां की जो इंटेलिजेंट फिलोसोफी है, वह रहती है ? गोवा में आप जानते ही हैं कि वहां के आदिवासी लोगों ने उन पर बहुत ऐतराज किया है, इस पर ऐतराज किया है कि वे नान-कनफार्मिस्ट जिन्दगीं ब्रिताते हैं । मैं अनुरोध करूंगा कि इस दृष्टिकोण को मद्दे-नजर रख कर सारी समस्या का अध्ययन किया जाए ।

हमारे देश के नवयुवक और नवयुवतियां विद्रोही बनें, लेकिन मैं नहीं चाहता कि वे हिप्पी बनें । हम यह नहीं चाहते कि हमारे नवयुवक और नवयुवतियां हिप्पीज की बुरी बातों की नकल या अनुकरण करें । हम देखते हैं कि प्रायः ये लोग रेस्टोरां और काफ़ी हाउस में बैठे रहते हैं । एक बार मैं वहां काफ़ी पीने के लिये गया । ऐसे कुछ लोग भी वहां आ गये, लेकिन किसी बियरर ने उन को नहीं पूछा कि वे काफ़ी पीयेंगे । पूछने पर हमें बताया गया कि ये लोग पैसे नहीं देते हैं और काफ़ी पी कर भाग जाते हैं उन लोगों में अच्छाईयां भी हैं और बुराईयां भी । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार इस बारे में क्या कार्यवाही करेगी कि हमारे देश के नवयुवक और नवयुवतियां इन लोगों के प्रभाव में न आयें ।

अन्त में मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय ने जो अध्ययन करने का वादा किया है वह उस का ब्यौरा सदन के सामने कब रखेंगे ?

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: My intention of raising a discussion on this subject is to know how it is affecting our younger generations. And I think my hon. friend, Shri Rabi Ray also has said the same thing.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister will reply.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: The hon. Minister said that he was going to examine it. But I say that it has already started

affecting the people. We should not wait for one year for completing the investigation and for the report. The Minister said that the report would be made available at the end of this year. That means still we have to wait for eight months to get the report.

I want that immediate action should be taken in this connection.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: I am not putting any questions. But I am entitled to seek a clarification from the Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can seek a clarification.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: In some countries like Singapore and other places, if the Hippies come they have got a plan for them. If they find that they are a nuisance or what is called a menace to the society, they will be packed off at the expense of the Government to their respective countries, whether such a device could be followed here is my question.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: Shri Kundu was not properly listening to what I was saying. As a matter of fact our approach to this problem is that of liberalism. We do not want to deal with this matter in a close-jacket manner. They are dealing with this in a very conservative and close-minded fashion. We do not want to deal with this problem in that manner. Our only worry or concern about this matter is regarding the unhealthy effect that might be caused to our younger generations. We do not want any unhealthy effect to be transferred to our younger generations.

The second thing is this that I mentioned was that we do not want illegal trafficking in drug to be carried on through these people. We want to be clear about that matter. As long as these two things are clear we do not mind in their getting involved with the Sadhus. Whether they learn yogas properly or not or whether they move about in the streets with dirty clothes barefooted or not that is not our concern. They can do whatever they wish to do as long as they do not become a source of nuisance.

As for the number we have not yet classified them different from the tourists because, as the House knows, it is very difficult to define who exactly is a Hippie.

[Shri. Vidya Charan Shukla]

There is a difference in degree and there are differences in various features that go to form for a person to be called a Hippie. We have issued letters to various departments and requested them, by giving more or less some sort of a definition, to find out how many of such people have come here and what they have been doing and other connected information about their activities etc.

After getting the information, we will examine if any action by us is called for. If no such action is called for, as I hope, we shall take no such action. But if it is really creating an unhealthy effect on our younger generation or is giving encouragement or opening the way to illegal traffic in drugs, we will have to think of taking some action. I can assure the House that as far as Government are concerned, we do not want to interfere with the way of life of foreign tourists here as long as they do not interfere with the social life of our people and our law and order situation is not disturbed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Daman's question whether it has come to Govern-

ment's notice that it is having an adverse effect on the morals of young persons is not answered.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: I said that we have nothing to believe that it has actually happened. But before we come to a final conclusion on this, we will make a study. Several representations have been made to us. Shri Kundu and Shri Rabi Rai may say that nothing of this kind is happening.

श्री रवि राय : मैंने गोआ के बारे में जिज्ञासा किया था ।

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : There are several centres where these people have congregated in large numbers, but it is by no means certain that this kind of thing is happening. But before we take a decision in this matter, we must have facts and proper statistics in our hands.

19.03 Hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, April 9, 1970/Chaitra 19, 1892 (Saka).