

12.00 hrs.

**RE. CALLING ATTENTION TO
MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC
IMPORTANCE**

Mr. Speaker: Professor Ranga has written to me a letter saying that I should reconsider his calling-attention notice. How does he justify that?

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): May we at least know the subject-matter of it?

Mr. Speaker: It is regarding the arrest of Shri Golwalkar.

Shri U. M. Trivedi (Mandsaur) rose—

Mr. Speaker: I had called Shri Ranga.

Shri Nath Pai: We have sent for your consideration matters of much greater import to the continuance of constitutional government than this.

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. Member tell me that this is not of as great importance as his and so this need not be taken up?

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): He did not mean that at all. . . . (*Interruption*).

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): My plea before you is that only yesterday the Home Minister was good enough to call the leaders of the various parties in this House to his room in order to seek our co-operation in seeing that there should be communal harmony in this unfortunate situation that has arisen as a result of the unwise and, as I said earlier, suicidal steps and policies pursued by Pakistan and East Bengal authorities so that the evil results of all these things can be minimised. Afterwards, he was also good enough to make an appeal in the course of his statement in this House for co-operation from all important elements, leaders and social

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forces in our country. Mr. Golwalkar, as you know, Sir, and as the House knows, is a leader of one of the very important social forces in our country. He could have been invited, just as we were invited, for consultation and co-operation and if the hon. Minister was not satisfied with his attitude, he should have taken the action that he is reported to have taken. That is why I wanted you to give us permission to ask for information as to under what circumstances Mr. Golwalkar came to be arrested and whether prior consultations had taken place between the Home Minister and Mr. Golwalkar.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Barackpore): May I make a submission?

Shri U. M. Trivedi: May I make a submission?

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: My submission is not about this particular matter which has been raised by Prof. Ranga. About that I have much to say. My main point is, this is the first time when this extraordinary procedure is being followed?

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: A new, good convention.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: But this should have been permitted on many more important calling attention notices. We have not been permitted ever to plead on behalf of any of our calling attention notices. Even the first sentence has not been permitted. . . .

Mr. Speaker: That is exactly what I am going to decide for ever. I want to bring it to the notice of the House that I have decided so many times not to allow such calling attention notices to be moved here. I

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rule it once for all, and I seek the co-operation of all the Members, that the arrest of an individual—of course, the case of a Member of Parliament could be different and that could be considered separately—whoever he might be, however big he might be, whatever sympathies we might have with him, cannot form the subject-matter of a calling attention notice. Therefore, I will request the hon. Members not to give notices on that.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: My point is this. I would certainly support Prof. Ranga in being able to plead before you whether a particular calling attention notice should be permitted or not. But my point is, whether we are now establishing this procedure for the first time when it has not been permitted on several other occasions, numerous other occasions, to even plead before you the subject-matter which we are trying to raise. Why should Prof. Ranga be permitted to raise it? If he is permitted to raise it, I would certainly welcome it because that gives us a precedent and we should support it.

Shri Bade (Khargone): That does not mean that once a particular mistake is committed, it should be repeated.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. There is no mistake. (*Interruptions*). I have held so many times that this subject-matter should not be raised here. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty is right in that respect as to why this should be a special case. Because it is being repeated everyday and I am disallowing all those notices, I wanted the permission of the House that that rule should continue. In this case, because so many Members had signed it, I wanted to make it clear to them that I would not entertain such a notice. I want to put it to the House. It is not that I wanted to make any departure from that. I did not intend to make any distinction to be made between one and the other.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Actually, we would like to support the way in which he has been permitted....

Mr. Speaker: Even with the support of the hon. lady Member, I would not allow it. (*Interruptions*).

Shri U. M. Trivedi: May I make one submission? You were kind enough to say that the arrest of a person, however great he may be, is a matter which you would not allow to be raised. We can follow that. But the impression that has been gathered by us generally is that calling-attention-notices on this subject are not allowed only on the ground that these are things which concern only the State Governments who carry out these arrests and not on the ground that although they have been done by the Government of India and under the Defence of India Rules, they will not be considered.

Mr. Speaker: Whoever may do that, the arrest of a person is not to be a subject-matter for a calling-attention-notice.

श्री राम सेवक यादव (बाराबंकी) :
आपके निर्णय के सम्बन्ध में मुझे कुछ निवेदन करना है क्योंकि यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण बात है । ध्यान-आकर्षण प्रश्न के बारे में जो निर्णय आपने लिया है उस के बारे में मेरा निवेदन यह है कि प्रश्न यह नहीं है कि जो व्यक्ति गिरफ्तार किया गया है वह कितना बड़ा आदमी है और कितना महत्वपूर्ण है । प्रश्न यह उठता है कि आजकल जो हिन्दू-मुस्लिम दंगे हो रहे हैं उन को लेकर कल गृह मन्त्री ने कुछ लोगों को बुलाया था । इस तरह के कार्य जाँहते हैं तो उनका अमर देश की शान्ति पर पड़ता है । इसलिये जहाँ ऐसी स्थिति हुआ करे तो मैं निवेदन करूँगा कि ध्यान-आकर्षण प्रश्न किस तरह से उठेंगे, कहाँ पर वह अलाऊ होंगे इसके बारे में छंटे या बड़े आदमी का महत्व नहीं है । महत्व इस चीज का है कि ध्यान-आकर्षण

प्रश्न किस चीज में सम्बन्धित है। इसलिये आपका निर्णय देते समय आप इस चीज पर विचार करें।

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): I beg to submit very respectfully that when you have rejected a calling-attention notice, as you have ruled several times, the matter should not be raised on the floor of the House. If the hon. Member feels aggrieved, he can see you in the Chamber and you will try to satisfy him. I do not, therefore, see any reason why a question like that should be raised on the floor of the House again and again.

I would also submit that you have made the right distinction between Members of Parliament and those who are not Members of Parliament. I think that this is a protection of the privileges of Members of Parliament, and for that we shall all feel grateful to you and the coming generations will also feel grateful to you. But the fact of the matter is this that this privilege which you have given to Members of Parliament cannot be arrogated by anybody else, however eminent and distinguished he may be. I would submit very respectfully that the fact that a calling-attention-notice has been signed by a large number of persons does not mean that the subject-matter of the calling-attention-notice has been validated. Therefore, I think that we are not to judge a calling-attention-notice by the number of signatories it has but by the importance of the matter. I think that this principle should be stuck to and should not be departed from in future.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: It is a question of Hindu-Mussalman reaction.

Mr. Speaker: I have explained my position already and yet criticism is being made of my conduct. That is not fair. I have that discretion that even when I disallow a calling-attention-notice or a motion, if I think that I should mention it in the House,

I can do so. Therefore, I have done nothing in excess of what powers the rules have provided me with. Therefore, there ought not to be any surprise at that.

I must also confess that it may be my weakness that if there are a large number of signatories, I am influenced, and out of respect to them, sometimes....

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: It is your wisdom, not weakness.

Shri Nath Pai: It is your sense of fairness.

Mr. Speaker:... I mention it in the House, though the decision remains the same. I must assure hon. Members that simply because a large number of Members have signed it, the decision is not changed; it remains the same. But I show them this much respect that sometimes, I do mention it in the House.

श्री प्रकाशबोर शास्त्री (त्रिजनीर) :

मैं आप से नम्रतापूर्वक निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि आप ने यह व्यवस्था दी है कि इंडिविजुअल केनेज़ को हम ध्यान-आकर्षण का विषय न बनायें। लेकिन मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि कुछ व्यक्ति ऐसे होते हैं जो एक संस्था से भी बड़े होते हैं और उनके सम्बन्ध में लिये गये किसी निर्णय का प्रभाव एक संस्था पर ही नहीं पूरे देश पर पड़ा सकता है। जब हमारे देश के गृह मंत्री इस बात को चाहते हैं कि हमारे देश में कोई साम्प्रदायिक तनाव न बढ़े तब इनके बड़े महत्वपूर्ण व्यक्ति को गिरफ्तार करके आग में धी डाल देना और उस चीज को बढ़ाने देने का अक्सर देना देश की परिस्थिति को बिगाड़ना है। इसलिये इसको एक व्यक्तिगत बात न समझा जाये।

अरुण महोदय : यही बात रंगा साहब ने कही थी।

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): I do not want to go into

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the merits of this particular question. But as regards calling-attention-notice or adjournment motions, you have been following a policy, with the support of almost the whole House as such. I think there are occasions when on technical...

Mr. Speaker: If hon. Members desire, I can request them to come to my Chamber. That can be discussed there.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: I think we should follow the salutary principle which we have so far been following. Whenever there is a matter which is highly important, it should be left to the Speaker to mention it, and if the Members feel exercised, they can raise it in the House with your permission. I think this will be a salutary principle. We accept that decision. By and large, ordinarily, it should not be raised. That is how we have proceeded in the matter. I think this should be followed as a matter of policy.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): I have to submit two things, one is about your ruling and the other is about calling-attention-notice and adjournment motions.

I have been pleading in this House that calling-attention-notice are tabled on the basis of some information which has appeared to us of urgent public importance. Your ruling that the arrest of a person other than a Member of the House cannot become a matter of urgent public importance and, therefore, cannot be the subject-matter of a calling-attention-notice is one with which I respectfully disagree, though I bow to it. I say this because today some people may be arrested who are not members of this House. According to the rules of procedure, we feel that it may be a matter of urgent public importance which can be raised through a calling-attention-notice. So, a calling-attention-notice is based on a matter not depending on whether

it relates to the arrest of a particular person or persons who according to us may be very great or important, but depending on whether the matter is one of urgent public importance. And you in your wisdom has to decide whether it is of such importance. So there is a genuine feeling in this House that your ruling will amount to some sort of a curtailment on our right of representing the people of our constituencies and of the country. That will be bad thing.

Mr. Speaker: No, no.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: As regards the calling attention notice, I welcome the observation you have made. At least you allowed Shri Ranga to explain the point. This is our earnest desire so that it can be decided whether the matter is a Central matter or a State matter. But we are not given an opportunity to do so. You always call us in your Chamber. We have no grouse against it. But I submit opportunity should be given to the Members to prove in this House and argue, if necessary, that the matter is of urgent public importance.

Mr. Speaker: It cannot be proved in the House. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty. There is a calling attention notice.

12.14 hrs.

RE. MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): Before you pass on the next business, may I make a submission, not on the matter which has been under discussion so far, but on a matter of parallel importance?

Mr. Speaker: I would request him to write to me then.

Shri Nath Pai: I have written also. I have followed all these directions very scrupulously. I had tabled my adjournment motion. I got your word