

3. "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Legal Tender (Inscribed Notes) Bill, 1964, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 22nd September, 1964, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

FORTY-NINTH REPORT

Shri Krishnamoorthy Rao (Shimoga): Sir, I beg to present the Forty-ninth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO STARRED QUESTION NO. 1240

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): While replying to a supplementary question, asked by Shri Basappa, the Minister of Education stated as below:—

"As regards the Central Institutes, as far as I know, the scheme is that we admit 100 candidates for graduate studies and 25 for diploma courses. As far as I know, they have all got to be graduates".

The correct position is that according to the draft Scheme each Regional Institute will admit about 100 candidates per year of whom 25 will be graduates and 75 diploma-holders. The proportion of graduates and

diploma-holders will, however, be subject to adjustments according to local conditions at each Institute.

STATEMENT RE. ALLEGED ILL-TREATMENT OF A MEMBER

Mr. Speaker: I find that Shri Nath Pai is not here. He had been enquiring of me for the last two days about a particular case. Now that the Home Minister is making a statement.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Is it on the Calling Attention Notice?

Mr. Speaker: It would be seen when the statement is made.

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri L. N. Mishra): Mr. Speaker, immediately on receipt of calling attention notices and short notice questions tabled by some hon. Members on the reported ill-treatment and manhandling of Shri Priya Gupta, a Member of Parliament, while in detention in Purnea jail, the State Government was requested to furnish a report for the information of Parliament. A reply has now been received from the State Government denying that Shri Gupta was ever ill-treated or manhandled in Purnea jail. No complaint was also made to the District Magistrate in this regard. In fact the District Magistrate visited the jail on September 22, 1964, accompanied by the Additional District Magistrate and the Civil Surgeon, Purnea and enquired from Shri Gupta whether he was comfortable and was being properly looked after. Shri Gupta is said to have replied in the affirmative and does not seem to have complained of any ill-treatment.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): There is a serious complaint that Shri Priya Gupta was transferred from the Purnea jail to another jail without the requisite permission. When he had been to the other jail, the authorities of that jail refused to accept

[Shri Hem Barua.]

Shri Priya Gupta and he was shunted back to the Purnea jail again. But the Purnea jail authorities would not accept him and there was a lot of trouble. He had to stand for quite some time under a tree when the sun was very bright and very hot. These were the difficulties that he had to face. May I know whether Government would enquire into it?

Mr. Speaker: He had the advantage of being out of the jail for such a long time!

Shri Hem Barua: The authorities bungled with the result that he was shuttlecocking between these two jails.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Transferring a prisoner from one jail to another is a normal thing.

Mr. Speaker: But it is not a usual transfer in this case. He was sent to another jail but the jail authorities there would not accept him. I do not know whether the fault lies with Shri Priya Gupta or the jail authorities.

Shri Hem Barua: With the jail authorities.

Mr. Speaker: Anyhow, when he was sent back to the original jail, they also did not accept him. Therefore, he had to establish a camp under a tree.

Shri Hem Barua: There was no camp.

Shri L. N. Mishra: No such thing has happened. He was arrested at Katihar where there is a small sub-jail. Subsequently, he was transferred to Purnea where there is a district jail.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What was the machinery which enquired into the allegation that Shri Priya Gupta was ill-treated? Did the Minister simply rely on the statement sent by the District Magistrate to the State Gov-

ernment or did he employ the agency of the Central Government to know whether Shri Priya Gupta gave any written statement when he was approached by the district authorities?

Shri L. N. Mishra: We have received no complaint from Shri Priya Gupta. We have received this information from the State Government which is our agency, an accredited agency, a respectable agency I may say.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): The information that I have in my possession from a reliable source in Bihar is to the effect. . .

An Hon. Member: Which is that source?

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I will tell you outside the House; come and meet me outside, in the lobby.

My information is that my party and parliamentary colleague, Shri Priya Gupta, was ill-treated soon after his arrest and while he was transferred from one jail to another. Sir, you will recall, here in this very House, when a reference was made that my parliamentary colleague, Shri Hukam Chand Kachhavaia, was ill-treated inside the jail you were good enough to agree with the Members that a committee of enquiry should be appointed, a proper independent and thorough enquiry should be held into the matter. May I ask the hon. Minister whether Government are prepared to hold a thorough, independent and impartial enquiry into this disgraceful affair?

Mr. Speaker: There was no independent enquiry held even in Shri Kachhavaia's case. Shri Kachhavaia gave us the complaint and we sent it on to the State Government. They made their own enquiry and submitted to us a report. But Shri Kachhavaia says that it is wrong and I am going to allow him to file a

statement on that. But that is the only agency that the Central Government has got. They cannot put up an enquiry committee over the State Government.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Let them have an enquiry like that.

Mr. Speaker: It was just the same enquiry that was made.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: By whom?

Mr. Speaker: If they have something concrete in their possession, they can pass that on to me, that is, definite facts. Then, I can certainly pass that on to the Home Ministry so that they may find out those facts.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: All right, Sir.

श्री बागड़ी (हिसार) : इसी के बारे में मैं एक निवेदन अध्यक्ष महोदय से करना चाहूंगा ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर मुझ से ही कहना है तो हम अलाहदा चैम्बर में बात कर लेंगे ।

श्री बागड़ी : मैं अध्यक्ष महोदय से ही निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : तो फिर हम लोग अलग बात कर लेंगे ।

श्री बागड़ी : नहीं वहाँ नहीं, इसी सदन में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ । मैं यह निवेदन करूंगा कि असल में इस सदन के मेम्बरों की गिरफ्तारी का जो ताल्लुक होता है वह राज्य सरकारों से और वहाँ की पुलिस से होता है । लेकिन इस तरह से बार बार यहाँ के माननीय सदस्यों की मानहानि व्यक्ति की नहीं, बल्कि सदन की मानहानि है । इस तरीके से जो खास चीजें हैं, फर्ज कीजिये कि उन को एक

जगह गिरफ्तार किया और फिर द्वारा जगह . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह चर्चा बाद में ली जा सकता है । इस वक्त इस का फंला नहीं हो सकता, यह एक अलाहदा चर्चा है ।

श्री बागड़ी : मैं श्री प्रिय गुप्त के बारे में प्रर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि उन को एक जगह से दूसरी जगह पहुँचाया गया । इस सम्बन्ध में क्या गवर्नमेंट ने यह दर्याफ्त किया है कि जो सहूलियात एक माननीय सदस्य को मिलनी चाहियें, उन को एक जगह से दूसरी जगह पहुँचाने में जो सुविधायें दी जानी चाहियें, वह दी गई या नहीं । आया उन को पैदल चला कर ले गये या रिक्शा में और अगर उन को रेल में ले गये तो किस क्लास में ले गये, यह क्या मालूम किया गया है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इस वक्त यह शिकायत नहीं है ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (देवास) : अध्यक्ष महोदय . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य का सवाल अलग है ।

12.13 hrs.

PRESS COUNCIL BILL—Contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman on the 29th September, 1964, namely:—

“That this House concurs in the recommendation of Rajya Sabha that the House do join in the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Bill to establish a Press Council for the purpose of preserving the liberty of the Press and of maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers in India.