

reason that even if a child commits the highest crime which can be conceived of in society, he will not go to an ordinary court but will go to a children's court. That provision has been made only because of this and that, I think, is the most progressive measure, as far as I see. In no country does this provision exist, not even in Sweden from where examples were given by hon. Members. They make a difference between serious and ordinary crimes. When a child has committed a serious crime, he is sent to ordinary courts. Otherwise he is treated by child welfare boards. Therefore I think we have gone a step forward in this direction. I would assure hon. Dr. Aney that we would keep the moral, which he has placed before us, continuously in front of us. It is that spirit in which this Bill will be implemented.

He raised a question with regard to the definition of begging. We have listed all these things, namely, singing, dancing fortune-telling, performing tricks or selling articles. Where was the need to have the word 'otherwise' when we have listed all these activities, he asked. It is necessary because these people who exploit children are very ingenious. They can always find out all kinds of methods and means in order to evade this law. In fact, one hon. Member gave the instance of putting up of national flags. That is one way in which they try to squeeze money from people. That is not listed here. It is not possible to list all kinds of possible activities in which children may indulge or may be asked to indulge by people who exploit them. Therefore this word 'otherwise' is necessary.

Dr. M. S. Aney: Do I understand that the hon. Minister feels that the word is to be interpreted as, what is known in law, *ejusdem generis*, namely, things of the same kind or nature? Then he can say so.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: That is the purpose. He also raised the question as to why there should be the word

'depraved'. I think we understand all these words, namely, 'immoral' drunken or depraved life'. When people lose all noble instincts, when they become perverted, they are not only immoral but they also become depraved. When they lose all the good aspects or values of human life, they become depraved and I think it is right that children should not be associated with such people. It is with that view that this has been kept and I do hope that the law will take proper account of the type of persons who are depraved, drunken and immoral.

With these words I would like to thank the House again for having given such good support to this measure. We have introduced two important measures. One is for providing compulsory education for children and the other is this Children Bill for neglected and delinquent children. Both these measures in my opinion are a big step forward.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

13.45 hrs.

TELEGRAPH LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan):
Sir, I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and the Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933, be taken into consideration."

This is a short measure in order to make the law applicable to television. A certain doubt was raised in the mind whether television is included in the Act as it exists. We did feel that it did, but as a matter of act out of caution so that there may be no doubt about it we have introduced this Amendment Bill. We have taken advantage of this Amendment Bill to amend section 7 also to make it more clear.

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and the Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933, be taken into consideration."

Shri Muhammed Elias (Howrah): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have no criticism to make on this Bill, but since this Bill relates to television and because this Ministry is going to tax those people who will possess television sets, this Ministry also should see that television works properly and people also get the benefit of this. At the same time I shall make certain suggestions towards the end of my speech. When the rules are framed this Ministry should also consider inclusion of one or two suggestions of mine so that television and the work of the staff who will come under those rules will be improved.

Television has recently been introduced in our country. It was done only on the 15th September, 1959. In our country now only 76 sets are there and there are only two half-hour programmes. From the 23rd of this month another half-an-hour programme will be added to these. There is only one station in Delhi with a radius of 12½ miles.

Television is a very important thing in the modern age. It is one of the biggest media to teach and educate the ordinary masses. In this modern age most of the big countries, for instance, USA, USSR and many countries in Europe, have got television network throughout the country. Thousands of television sets are possessed by people. Even students in schools could be taught through television. I have seen with my own eyes how it is done in Moscow University. 16,000 television sets have been given to students who stay in the University itself. If any student cannot attend the class due to ill-health, he will be able to attend the class through his television set. Chemistry, physics, science, everything could be taught through television. But it will take a long

time to reach this stage in our country, namely, to teach and educate our people through television.

But the little that we possess now and the work which is going on in our country is not at all satisfactory. I shall say a few words about the working of television. For instance, the programme executive, the producer, the script writer, the assistant station director and the staff artistes, who are all very highly paid, do not have the qualifications to run television, because it is a highly technical thing. A man who is to run this must have experience of films, the theatre, acting as also of broadcasting. But the officers who have been given the charge to run television, do not have these qualifications—they are given very high salaries to run this—as a result of which the little number of people of Delhi who possess television sets are not at all satisfied with the programme. The cameras which our Television people possess are four only and the stage is very small where three cameras cannot be worked. Three-dimension pictures cannot be taken here, by two cameras only. If the stage had been a little bigger, three-dimension pictures could have been taken and relayed to the people. This is not there. The Programme executives and producers use the same artistes every time. It becomes monotonous to the people to see the television programmes.

The high officials who are recruited are not recruited through any committee or the U.P.S.C. They are arbitrarily taken as high officials and are given high salaries. But, they are not able to run the television properly. That is why I suggest that when the rules will be framed, not only the technical staff, but these officers also, for instance, the Programme executives, Producers, Assistant Station Directors, should come under the rules and some sort of an examination should be there, so that they must have some qualification to run television.

At the same time, the programme is now for four hours—from the 23rd, it is going to be four hours a week. It should be increased. We do not possess vidio-tape-recording Vidio-tape-recording system is absolutely necessary to run television. Because, in the stage everything cannot be done. By this vidio-tape-recording, pictures, etc. can be taken from all places and they can be televised from the stage. People could have an idea of every important event of our country. The Ministry should see that the vidio-tape-recording system is introduced as early as possible.

Just as the radio is becoming more and more cheap and at least the middle class people are able to buy a radio set, the Government should try to make easily available television sets. I do not want to take much of the time of the House. I only request the Minister to see that when the rules are made under this Act, just as the technical staff will be coming under the rules, the programme executives, producers and other staff also should come under the rules.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): Mr. Chairman, I think, with this Bill, we are ushering in the age of television in our country. Of course, television has been going on in our country for quite a number of months. But this Bill legalises and makes legitimate the use of television in this great country of ours. Our Prime Minister was responsible for ushering in the atomic age in this country. It redounds to the credit of the Minister of Communications, Dr. P. Subbaravan to bring into being this television age.

Of course, I must admit that the television system which we are having at present is not very adequate. It is also imperfect in many ways. But I do believe that it was an act of cour-

age to undertake television even on a pilot project basis. I think it was made possible with the help of Philips and Co. and it was on account of them that we are having this television. Television is a great thing in the western countries. But it is not an un-mixed blessing. I have watched some of the television shows in the U.S.A., U. S. S. R. and other countries of the world. I have felt that some of the television shows that I saw were such as were not conducive to civic consciousness. The organisers of the programme might not have meant it like that. But, somehow, the impression is quite different. In the U.S.A. there was a complaint that school students and college students did not attend to their studies. This is a complaint that I heard in other countries of the world also. They were all the time watching the television shows and it was very difficult to take them away from the television shows. Therefore, I believe that while television is to be given adequate backing, some of the objectionable parts that are found in other countries should not be put into operation here.

Just as the broadcasting programmes serve two purposes, education and entertainment, so also, the television programmes will serve both the purposes of education and entertainment. It will give education that is wholesome. It will give entertainment that is pure. There should not be televised shows of boxers, boxing and all this kind of thing which smack of violence, crime, and sex. If they are there, instead of improving the taste of the public, they will degrade the taste of the public. If all these things are there, instead of becoming a medium of education it will become the medium for the corruption of the manners of the people.

There is provision in this Bill for prescribing rules for the qualification

[Shri D. C. Sharma]

of persons who are going to be employed in the establishment, maintaining or working the wireless telegraph system. They are going to have examinations also. They are going to have fees also charged from them. I think all these are inevitable consequences of this Bill. But I would submit very respectfully that the examinations to be conducted for this purpose should be such as will allow as large a number of admissions as possible. No irksome regulations should be made for this examination which militate against a large number of students taking part in the examination. I also hope that the fees will be kept as low as possible. There has been a tendency in this country for some time past to raise the fees gradually and sometimes it becomes very difficult for poor and talented people to sit for these examinations. I hope that, while prescribing fees, the per capita income of my country will be taken into account and the fees will not be prohibitive. At the same time, I hope, while the Government is going to have examinations, the Government will also provide for the training of such persons. Training is necessary. I do not know what agencies the Government is going to employ for the training of these persons who will be qualified to work the television system. I hope attention will be given to that also.

I know there has been a drive in my country for producing cheap radio sets. Of course, the time has not come for us to produce cheap television sets. It would take some time before we are able to do that. I feel that the Government should keep this long term idea also in its mind. Unless we have cheap television sets, the population in this country will not be properly served.

The hon. Member who preceded me gave some details about the programmes that are being televised in the Delhi television sets. I agree with

some of the comments that he has offered. I have read in the papers, and have also myself seen, that the television programme suffers from lack of variety, suffers from dead monotony. It does not give the people the kind of fare expected of it. There seems to be a clique for managing the show. To become popular, it should try to obtain new talent all the time. It should not be the close preserve of a few persons coming from one State or the other. It should be thrown open to all the talent available in India.

India does not lack talent of any kind. In the film industry, for instance; our country has produced talented actors. I think in the television world also we should be able to produce performers who can bring international appreciation. Unfortunately, what is happening is that this television business has become a kind of close business. I hope these things will be avoided, and the public will get the kind of television that it wants.

14 hrs.

There was criticism in the press that the programmes are more pompously serious than entertaining; they suffer from a kind of seriousness which is boring to the person who takes to television for relaxation. I hope this will be looked into. I know the programmes are not under the Ministry of Transport and Communications, but under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, but since this Bill has come to legalise and make legitimate the coming in of the television age, I hope all these things connected with television will be taken into account, and India will progress as much in the field of television as in the field of films and broadcasting and other fields of mass media.

श्री मोहन स्वरूप (पीलीभीत) :

सभापति महोदय, आज की दुनियां में जब कि ऐटामिक एज है, और जब कि टेली कम्यूनिकेशन का विस्तार होता जा रहा है और टेलिविजन की आवश्यकतायें हर देश में बढ़ती जा रही हैं, यह खुशी की बात है कि यह अमेंडमेंट हमारे सामने आया है। जहां तक उन की डेफिनिशन का सवाल है, जैसा कि स्टेटमेंट आफ आब्जेक्ट्स ऐंड रीजन्स में दिया गया है, डेफिनिशन में कुछ ज्यादा फर्क नहीं है। जो डेफिनिशन पहले ऐक्ट में हैं और जो अब प्रोवाइड की गई हैं, उन की स्पिरिट एक ही है। खाली यह है कि बदलते हुए दौर में जब कि टेलिविजन की चर्चा ज्यादा होती है और उसका विस्तार हो रहा है, इस चीज को देखते हुए इस में तब्दीली की गई है।

व्यूनस आर्यर्स में जो १९५२ में इंटर-नेशनल टेलीकम्यूनिकेशन कंवंशन हुआ था उसमें जो कुछ डेफिनिशन दी गई है, वह बड़ी दिलचस्प हैं। टेलीकम्यूनिकेशन की डेफिनिशन दी गई है :

“Any transmission, emission, or reception of signs, signals, writings, images and sounds or intelligence of any nature by wire, radio, visual or other electro-magnetic systems.”

यह बहुत मुक्तमर सी डेफिनिशन दी गई है। टेलीग्राफ की डेफिनिशन दी गई है :

“A system of telecommunication for the transmission of written matter by the use of a signal code.”

टेलीफोनिक की डेफिनिशन भी दी गई है :

“A system of telecommunication set up for the transmission of speech or in some cases other sounds.”

इस तरह से बहुत मुक्तमर और दिलचस्प डेफिनिशन दी गई है। हमारे यहां जो

डेफिनिशन दी गई हैं वह बहुत लम्बी चौड़ी हैं। तो मेरा कहना यह है कि इन को जरा मुक्तमर किया जाता तो ज्यादा अच्छा था। इस के साथ ही साथ टेलीग्राफी की डेफिनिशन का भी इजाफा होना चाहिये, जो कि नहीं हुआ है। इस में टेलीग्राफ की डेफिनिशन है लेकिन टेलीग्राफी की डेफिनिशन भी ऐड होनी चाहिये। जैसा कि टेलीफोनिक में दिया गया है :

“A system of telecommunication set up for the transmission of speech or in some cases other sounds.”

इस का भी इजाफा होना चाहिये था।

इसके साथ साथ इस में कुछ तरमीमें पेश की गई हैं, जिन के बारे में ज्यादा कुछ कहने की गुंजाइश नहीं है। वे ठीक ही हैं। जैसे कि सेक्शन ७ में (जे) के बाद जो (जेजे) बढ़ाया गया है वह बहुत ठीक है। उसमें खास बात नहीं है। सेक्शन ५ में जो सन्स्टिट्यूट पेश किया गया है वह भी ठीक है और इस के बारे में ज्यादा कहने की गुंजाइश नहीं है। लेकिन वह लेंग्यी ज्यादा कर दिया गया है, हालांकि उस से कुछ फायदा नहीं होता।

वायरलेस टेलीग्राफी ऐक्ट, १९५३ में जो अमेंडमेंट है वह भी ठीक ही हैं लेकिन कहीं कहीं पर कुछ विस्तार ज्यादा कर दिया गया है, जैसे कि अमेंडमेंट आफ सेक्शन १० जो दिया गया है वह बहुत लम्बा चौड़ा कर दिया गया है। पहले ऐक्ट में उसे विस्तार से दिया गया था लेकिन इस में लेंग्वेज को कुछ तोड़ मरोड़ कर एक साथ कर दिया गया है। मैं चाहता था कि उस में जो बजाहत की गई थी वही जो मौजूदा सन्स्टिट्यूट दिया गया है उसमें भी की जाती। इस तरह से हमारे सामने बोड़े से अमेंडमेंट्स हैं। वे ठीक ही हैं और मुझे उन के बिषय में ज्यादा नहीं कहना है। लेकिन कुछ बातें मैं भी कहना चाहता हूं कि जैसे कि मेरे दोस्त प्रोफेसर डी० सी० शर्मा ने कहीं टेलीविजन के बारे में।

[श्री मोहन स्वरूप]

अभी थोड़े ही दिन हुए हमारे यहां टेलीविजन शुरू किया गया है। बताया गया कि टेलीविजन का प्रोग्राम ३० मील तक ही देखा जा सकता है। उस के बाद रिलेइंग का बन्दोबस्त करना पड़ता है। और देशों में ऐसा किया भी गया है। हमारे यहां यह चीज नहीं है। मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर टेलीविजन के प्रोग्राम को ज्यादा दिलचस्प बनाना है तो उस के लिये रिलेइंग स्टेशन्स भी होने चाहियें ताकि पूरे देश में उसे देखा जा सके। टेलीविजन के जो रिसीवर्स होते हैं वे भी बहुत महंगे होते हैं। आमूली इन्सान उन को खरीद नहीं सकता। इसलिये अगर उनको सस्ता करने के मुताल्लिक और उन के लाइसेंस को लिब्रलाइज करने के मुताल्लिक गवर्नमेंट विचार करे तो ज्यादा अच्छा है।

इसी के साथ साथ मैं यह कहना चाहता था कि हमारे यहां मीडियम वेव के स्टेशन्स बहुत कम हैं और प्रोग्राम मीडियम वेव पर ज्यादा होते हैं। मुझे बनलाया गया कि मीडियम वेव पर जो प्रोग्राम होते हैं, वे शायद कुछ महंगे होते हैं। लेकिन इस के साथ साथ अगर मीडियम वेव के प्रोग्राम को सुनने वाले रिसीवर बनाये जायें तो शायद वह सस्ता पड़ेगा शार्ट वेव के मुकाबले में। इस लिये मेरा गवर्नमेंट से अनुरोध है कि वह मीडियम वेव के प्रोग्राम की ओर भी बढ़ाने की कोशिश करे।

इस के साथ साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि रीजनल लेंगेजेज में मीडियम वेव पर प्रोग्राम होने चाहियें। पंजाब में पंजाबी में और मद्रास में दक्षिणी भाषाओं में रीजनल प्रोग्राम होंगे तो वे ज्यादा पापुलर होंगे। यह खुशी की बात है, जैसा कि मैं ने अखबार में पढ़ा, कि ए० आई० आर का एक्स्टेंशन हो रहा है। अखबार की खबर यह है :

“Mr. J. C. Mathur, Director-General of All-India Radio, announced in New Delhi on Thursday that AIR proposed to set up

56 new transmitters within one year, bringing the total number to 115.”

इसी के साथ साथ टेलीविजन का विस्तार हो रहा है। फ्रांस, इटली और यू० एम० के पेटर्न पर कुछ क्लब भी बनाये जा रहे हैं। यह सब काम हो रहा है यह खुशी की बात है, लेकिन इसमें जितना विस्तार हो सके वह किया जाये और जितनी एफिशियेंसी बढ़ाई जा सके, वह बढ़ाई जाये तो और भी ज्यादा खुशी की बात होगी।

मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इंग्लिश ला में यह प्रोवाइड किया गया है कि जो लोग वायरलेस टेलीग्राफी में एक्स्पेरिमेंट्स करेंगे उनको एक्स्पेरिमेंटल बेसिस पर लाइसेंस दिये जायें। हमारे मौजूदा ऐक्ट में जो ग्रमेंड-मेंट्स आये हैं उन में एक यह चीज नहीं आती है कि एक्स्पेरिमेंटल बेसिस पर अगर कुछ लोक लाइसेंस चाहें तो उन को वह मिल सकेगा।

इसी के साथ साथ यह जो ब्युनस आयरस कन्वेंशन १९५२ का हमारे सामने है इसमें कुछ परिवर्तन किये गये हैं जिनकी ओर मैं आपकी तवज्जह दिलाना चाहता हूँ। आर्टिकल ३८ में यह दिया गया है कि गवर्नमेंट जो भी कम्युनिकेशन भेजे वह सीक्रेट लेंगेजेज में हो। इसी तरह से अगर कोई इंडीवीजुअल चाट तो उसके लिये भी सीक्रेट लेंगेजेज में मैसेज भेजने का प्रावीजन होना चाहिये।

इसी के साथ साथ आर्टिकल ४६ में दिया हुआ है कि डिस्टेंस काल और इसी तरह के दूसरे मैसेजेज के लिये टाय प्रायिगिटी दी जाये।

मैं चाहता था कि इस कन्वेंशन से और वायरलेस के सिलसिले में जितने भी इंटरनेशनल और कामन वेल्थ आरगेंनाइजेशन्स हैं उनसे हमारा तालमेल हो और उनकी जो एक्टिविटीज और प्रोग्राम जो इसमें प्रोवाइड किये

गये हैं उनमें इजाफा करें तो देश के लिये ज्यादा बेहतर होगा ।

मैं और ज्यादा नहीं कहना चाहता क्योंकि और ज्यादा कहने की गुंजाइश भी नहीं है । मैं फिर निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि जो वायर-लैम के या टेलीविजन के प्रोग्राम हों उनका ज्यादा से ज्यादा विस्तार किया जाये और उनको ज्यादा से ज्यादा रोचक बनाने की तरफ तवज्जह दी जाए ताकि उनकी उपयोगिता बढ़ सके और लोग उनको पसन्द करें ।

Shri Kalika Singh (Azamgarh): The introduction of television in India must be welcomed for a very special reason. In India we have got the highest illiteracy, and in a country where the people are not literate, the medium of education is often the radio, or television or cinema or some such thing.

In regard to the importance of television, we just read in the papers that the whole American election was influenced by the direct talks that the two candidates had on television. Four or five such programmes were arranged in the U.S.A. and the two candidates had face-to-face discussion on important subjects, and the people of USA were given an opportunity to hear and assess the merits of the two candidates directly. It was the medium of television that helped them, because all the newspapers there are connected with this party or that party or they have got their own independent opinions.

Even in India the speeches of the Prime Minister of India are not reported just as he wants them to be reported, because there are papers which have got the capitalist background, there are other papers which have got the leftist background, and, therefore, the same speech of the Prime Minister is reported in different ways in different papers. Therefore, it is of prime importance in India at least that whatever our leaders say should be correctly conveyed to the people of India

as a whole. About 80 to 85 per cent., and in fact, I may say, even 90 per cent. of our people depend upon some intermediate agency. That agency may be the newspapers or it might be mere persons who just convey in the villages anything they please, or even that the Prime Minister has expressed an opinion that a province will be given to Pakistan or that he has said that Government are going to introduce this or that drastic legislation in Parliament. In this way, wild rumours are publicized and our public are just carried away by such propaganda. Therefore, in India at least where we have got such high illiteracy, it is very essential that the Government of India should be prepared to spend any amount, even crores and crores for the dissemination of proper information, through AIR and through television. I know the limitations in regard to television, because television sets cannot be set up in all the villages in all the States, because the range of transmission is very limited. If a television transmitter is established in Delhi, it will not telecast for more than 20 or 25 miles round about. That is the limit. So, there will have to be regular relaying stations throughout India, and these will cost our exchequer a very high amount. Government should make provision for that. But, anyway, it should be the duty of this Parliament to provide as much money as possible for the television and radio programmes, because these media are the only means of serving the masses at large, or otherwise, the whole democracy may topple down because of the misinformation carried through so many agencies.

Television is also a very good medium for recreation and for so many other things. I am not welcoming television here for recreational purposes. In England, USA and elsewhere, television is important as a recreational medium. In England, every third or fourth family has got a television set,

[Shri Kalika Singh]

and now they are doing away with radio. They just sit round the hearth and hearing the television programmes, and they see sports and everything else on the television screen. I am not concerned with that aspect here in our country. I do not want that Indians should have recreation at the cost of the country. I want television in our country in order that our democracy may grow. Television and radio being very important from this point of view, any amount of money should be provided for this purpose I am conscious of the fact that the Ministry of Transport and Communications is not concerned with all that. That is the business of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, and this Ministry has only come forward with an amendment of the Indian Telegraph Act and the Wireless Telegraphy Act to enable the people to have licence for television sets. So, the limitations of this Ministry apart, I would, however, submit that the point should be carried through that we must have television in India for the carrying on of democracy.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I do not think I could add much to the debate, because the person really concerned with this is the Minister of Information and Broadcasting. I shall naturally convey to him all that has been said about programmes etc.

I think our All India Radio programmes are as good as could be had anywhere, and, therefore, I do not think people need complain that the Information and Broadcasting Ministry are not doing what they should do.

Of course, the television programme is only at its beginning. I am sure hon. Members understand that it will cost a good deal of money before there is a network of television programmes all over India. It is being tried now in a small fashion, and of course, it will increase, if more and more people get interested in television and want to see television propagated in the proper manner.

Therefore, I would content myself with saying that hon. Members have dealt with this matter in a very comprehensive fashion, no doubt, with which I am not really concerned, but I am sure my hon. colleague the Minister of Information and Broadcasting will go through the debate that has taken place and see what they can do with regard to this.

Mr Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and the Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: There are no amendments to the clauses.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 5, clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 5, clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title were added to the Bill.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed".

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

The motion was adopted.

14:20 hrs.

BRITISH STATUTES (APPLICATION
TO INDIA) REPEAL BILL

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): I beg to move :

"That the Bill to repeal certain statutes in their application to India, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration".

This is a very formal matter pursuant to the recommendations made by the Law Commission in respect of certain British statutes which are still applicable in India. The Law Commission has recommended the repeal of these statutes. So we have formally