

मजहब के लोग हैं उनमें इतनी ताकत है कि मिलकर जो हमारे सामने कठिन ई है उसका मुकाबला कर सकते हैं। हमें उसकी चिंता नहीं है। तेल न दें। अब्बल तो देंगे। अगर न दें तो न दें। तो भी हम हल कर लेंगे। लेकिन मैं सरकार से इतना कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस बात को केवल शांति से न देखें। इसके लिए डिप्लोमैटिक स्तर पर विभिन्न प्रकार के कदम उठाने चाहिए।

उपसभापति :

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जरा संक्षेप में।

श्री विश्वजय सिंह (बिहार) : बहुत संक्षेप में। माननीय उपसभापति महोदया, मैं शायद इस बात को नहीं कहता। गुजराल साहब की बात से मैं पूरी तरह सहमत हूँ और गुजराल साहब ने पूरी बातों को सदन में साफ तौर पर रखने की अपनी तरफ से कोशिश की लेकिन सुरेश कलमाडी साहब और माथुर साहब ने थोड़ा इस मसले को दूसरा रंग देने का जो प्रयास किया उससे मैं थोड़ा चिंतित हूँ। मैं आज इस सदन के सामने बड़े विश्वास से इस बात को कह रहा हूँ कि दुनिया की कुछ ताकतें जो मुस्लिम देश हमारे दोस्त हैं और हमारे उनके साथ सम्बन्ध हैं उनको बिगाड़ने में लगी हुई है। पाकिस्तान भी उसका एक हिस्सा है। भारत को बहुत ही गम्भीरता से और मौके की नजाकत को समझते हुए इस पर कदम उठाना चाहिए। जब मैं इस बात को कह रहा हूँ, तो मेरे दिमाग में एक बात है। आज कुछ ताकतें जो अपने को सा रज्यवादी ताकतें कहती हैं दुनिया में, वह ताकतें एक ऐसा माहौल बना रही हैं कि दुनिया को खतरा है किसी से, तो इस्लाम से खतरा है और उसके नाम पर वह कभी इस्लामिक फंडामेंटलिज्म का माहौल बना रही हैं, कभी टैरॉरिज्म का माहौल बना रही हैं और भारत का इस्तेमाल इस माहौल में अपने को एक इंस्ट्रुमेंट के रूप में करना चाहती है।

इसलिए मैं भारत के लोगों से, भारत की सरकार से—दुर्भाग्य है कि इस समय कोई मंत्री अभी बैठा हुआ नहीं है, थगन

साहब अपने में मशगूल हैं, लेकिन फिर भी मैं इस सदन के माध्यम से सरकार को कहना चाहता हूँ कि मौके की नजाकत को समझें और ओ०आई०सी० का जो रिपोर्ट आया है, उस रिपोर्ट को बहुत गम्भीरता से लेने की जरूरत नहीं है, क्योंकि हर ऐसे सम्मेलनों में कुछ मजबूरियाँ होती हैं देशों को ऐसे मामले को एडाप्ट कर लेने में, और मेरा पूरा यकीन है कि जो राष्ट्र उसमें शामिल थे, उन राष्ट्रों की पूरी हमदर्दी, जो भी भारत और कश्मीर के मसले पर आज रेजोल्यूशन पास हुआ है, उससे अलग है।

इस लिए उसको बहुत गम्भीरता से लेने की जरूरत नहीं है और मौके की नजाकत को समझते हुए बेहतर तो यह है कि उसे इग्नोर ही किया जाए। यहाँ मैं कहना चाहता हूँ।

Killings of Police Officers by Sandalwood Smuggler a Veerappan

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Madam Deputy Chairman, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to raise a very important matter. Madam, the sandalwood smuggler Veerappan's gang killed 22 commandos and injured more than 30 police officers near Palair bridge at Tamil Nadu—Karnataka border who went for combating operation in that area. For more than 20 years, the sandalwood smuggler Veerappan's gang has been operating in Salem and Periyar districts of Tamil Nadu and in the Mysore district of Karnataka. They used to smuggle sandalwood and supply it to various notorious smugglers and to the people who were involved in the sandalwood business in this country and also abroad. Whenever the Tamil Nadu police tried to arrest Veerappan and his gang, they used to escape to Karnataka through Tamil Nadu-Karnataka border. Whenever Karnataka police started operation they used to escape into Tamil Nadu. Therefore, he was escaping from the police

[Shri V. Narayanasamy]

authorities. Then a joint effort was made to nab Veerappan by the Tamil Nadu Government and the Karnataka Government. One of the important persons, Periamman, who was his ally, was arrested. He gave very startling revelations about the sandalwood smuggler Veerappan. He revealed that ex-Army men and a former jawan had joined the ranks of Veerappan and they have been training the persons who have been in the group. Not only that, the LTTE persons, who have been operating in Tamil Nadu, also came there. The LTTE persons also gave training to handle sophisticated weapons to Veerappan's gang. Madam, he has very good intelligence network. Two State Governments have been able to nab Veerappan and his gang. They have killed more than 22 commandos and injured many persons. It was a very ghastly incident. Madam, a landmine planted by the sandalwood smuggler Veerappan's gang went off at Palar bridge due to to which 22 commandos were killed and more than 30 others injured. There was a demand made by the Congress party and its leaders that army's help may be sought for the purpose of nabbing the gangster. The army will be able to do the combing operation better than the State police. But to my surprise, the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister flatly refused the possibility of requisitioning the army... (Interruptions)...

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN (Tamil Nadu): What about Karnataka?... (Interruptions)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I am coming to that. When I said Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, why should you get agitated? Why are you getting pin-pricked? She flatly refused to requisition the services of the army. The army has a good network. The army is sophisticatedly trained. The army knows how to do the combing operation in forest areas. The reason given by the Tamil Nadu Chief

Minister is that a population of more than one lakh lives in those hilly areas and the people will have to be evacuated. It is not necessary to evacuate the people. The army knows to do it. The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister refused to requisition the army for reasons best known to her. It has surprised us. Veerappan has links with the LTTE. There was a demand to appoint a commission which would find out the nexus between the LTTE and Veerappan. The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister refused even that. This is a serious matter. The country's precious sandalwood is vanishing. Some people who are placed in high echelons of power in the Tamil Nadu Government have a nexus with Veerappan. Whenever the issue of Veerappan is raised... (Interruptions)...

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: The Karnataka Chief Minister and the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister had a meeting with the officers. The Karnataka Chief Minister is not happy with the idea of calling the army. He also does not want the army because once the army comes a lot of problems are created. This has happened in Assam. The local people get into difficulties. We are second to none in trying to catch this man. There have been meetings. For the first time there was a meeting between the two Chief Ministers. Why can't you say about Karnataka? You take up the matter with the Karnataka Chief Minister. Did he agree to the idea of calling the army? He is operating in both the States, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka... (Interruptions)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madam... (Interruptions)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, order... (Interruptions)...

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Veerappan himself said that he has a nexus with the Karnataka politicians... (Interruptions)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Swaminathan, please... (Interruptions)... If Mr. Narayanasamy is asking for the army to go there, you don't have to get panicky. Just because he is saying it, it is not going to be accepted immediately. He has a right to say what he feels. It is for the Government to decide what they want to do.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: He operates in both the States. The Karnataka Chief Minister should also accept it.

SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN (Tamil Nadu): There is a story behind it (Interruptions)...

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Karnataka politicians have a nexus with him. Congress Ministers are also there. Why can't he talk about it? (interruptions)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am going to find out whether there are any sandalwood trees in Pondicherry... (interruptions)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: It is being smuggled to Pondicherry also... (interruptions)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why can't you catch them in Pondicherry?... (interruptions)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: We are taking steps. Why are they allowing? The Tamil Nadi Govenment is allowing it... (Interruptions)...

SHRI SOMAPPA R. BOMMAI (Orissa): Let there be a meeting of the two Chief Ministers and the Union Home Minister... (Interruptions)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I was coming to that... (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMAPPA R. BOMMAI: Mr. Narayanasamy, you must know.

our Forest Minister or some Minister in Karnataka said that Veerappan is a Congress man. It is on record... (Interruptions)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I refute the allegation made by a senior leader of the Janata Dal. It is not a political issue. It is an issue where the two State Governments are not able to apprehend the person.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: He has been given full protection in Karnataka... (Interruptions) That is why the Tamil Nadu police is not able to arrest him. He gets all the protection there. I am sorry to say this. And whenever we try to catch him, he flees to Karnataka... (Interruptions).

SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Not only smuggling, elephant poaching is also going on. They are extracting money from the granite quarry owners.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is all... (Interruptions)

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: That was going on even during the DMK regime... (Interruptions)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not permitting... (Interruptions) I won't allow anything. That is all... (Interruptions) Mr. Narayanasamy, you took enough time.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: They have taken my time. I will take only one minute... (Interruptions)

SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: The Veerappan gang was able to... (Interruptions)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I said, please take your seat... (Interruptions) If you don't keep quiet, nothing will go on record... (Interruptions) It is not going on record... (Interruptions) Take your seat, please... (Interruptions) Mr. Narayanasamy, you also please take your seat.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I am going to complete now.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Unfortunately, anything happening in Tamil Nadu opens a Pandora's box here. What is there to get agitated? I see many people getting up around the House.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madam, with your permission, I am raising the issue.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There are also other States beyond Tamil Nadu. There are also issues beyond Tamil Nadu... *(Interruptions)* I cannot allow it to go on... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Whenever I say, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, he gets up. What can I do?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to say, Mr. Narayanasamy, you may be from the South but there are many issues relating to North and South. If the Members want to raise ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I will take only one minute more. The Veerappan gang is escaping because of the tribal people who are living in that forest area. He gets their protection and he gets the first-hand information about the police operation in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. One of the very interesting aspects is that one DIG, Mr. Davaram, gave a statement that if the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, please take your seat ... *(Interruptions)* I am not permitting even one word now... *(Interruptions.)* Because you are repeating and I know what you said. You can see the record. Please don't repeat. We have only 15 minutes left for the lunch hour and I have 14 other special mentions.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: With one sentence, I will conclude. The

DIG, Mr. Davaram, has said, "If the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister allows me for one month, I will chase him and apprehend him." But, he has been called back. What is the reason for this?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is all. Mr. Rajagopal ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I request the hon. Home Minister to send the army there...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Home Minister doesn't send the army. It is the Defence Minister who sends the army and the Defence Minister is the Prime Minister himself.

SHRI M. A. BABY (Kerala): While seeing the woods, we miss the forest.

Problems of short distance railway passengers consequent upon introduction of sleeper class

SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL (Madhya Pradesh): Madam, I would like to invite the attention of the House to a serious situation that is developing in Kerala, in Tamil Nadu and in some other places also. Consequent upon certain decisions taken by the Railway Minister in the Railway Budget, a special class has been created called the sleeper class and the rate of the sleeper class is also very much higher. This has resulted in a situation where thousands of short distance railway passengers are being put to a great difficulty. Especially in the State of Kerala, where the lines are almost saturated, you can't have more trains running between places like Cochin and Trivandrum. Also, there are already 21 compartments in the trains and you cannot add any more number of compartments. You cannot bring more trains also. In such a situation, short-distance passengers were availing this facility to travel in long-distance trains. Because of the introduction of this