

weavers who have been driven to the streets abegging and closure of certain textile mills. Further the exports of powerloom cloth in the guise of handloom cloth has also resulted in serious set back to the handloom industry, resulting in accumulation of handloom cloth and consequent under-employment and un employment for longer periods in a year, causing starvation, leading to starvation deaths of and suicides by handloom weavers in centres with heavy concentration of handlooms. This could have been avoided if the recommendation of the high-powered handloom committee headed by B. Siva Raman, the then member of the Planning Commission, to stamp every metre of powerloom cloth at loom stage was enforced. But the Government has been a silent spectator of the sad situation because the handloom weavers have no trade unions to shout slogans and make noise.

The only way to keep the handloom weavers at work throughout the year is to reserve the non-tailorable cloth to handlooms, allowing the mills and powerlooms to produce the tailorable cloth, to ensure employment to all classes of workers in the textile industry. The other alternative is to allow the mills and powerlooms to produce cloth out of man-made yarns, leaving cotton and cotton-blended yarns and silk yarns to handlooms.

The long standing demand of the handloom weavers from all over the country to arrange supply of yarn and other raw materials at subsidised prices free of fiscal levies just as seeds, fertilisers, sugar, cement, paper and even rice are distributed to several classes of consumers at subsidised prices is to be conceded immediately.

Lastly I submit that at the time of handloom weavers' satyagraha at Madras for a period of 75 days commencing from 15th April to 30th June, 1951, during which period more than 10,000 handloom weavers including myself courted arrest. late Shri Rajaji, the giant among the world statesmen, aptly described that the Indian handloom weaver

is a motherless child when approached by press people. There is no change in the condition of the handloom weaver. I am hopeful that the present Government as promised by the Prime Minister in his first address to the nation, would soon give preference to 'production by masses' in place of mass production by machines, particularly in the textile industry to maximise employment in the rural sector.

श्रीराम नरेश यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) :
महोदय, यह एक बहुत ही गंभीर प्रश्न है इसलिये इसकी तरफ सरकार का ध्यान जाना चाहिये। मैं अपने आपको इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ। मैं समझता हूँ कि सारे सदन का ध्यान इस तरफ जाना चाहिये।

DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY
(Andhra Pradesh): We all associate ourselves with this special mention. Handloom weavers are the greatest sufferers.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. A. BABY): I think the Government will take note of the sense of the House but the point is that the special mention on handloom problem went on like an unending sari of Draupadi in the Puranas.

Raids on the House of Political leaders of Orissa

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA
(Rajasthan): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House and the Government to the raids which have taken place on the 11 ex-Ministers' and also the Chief Minister's Houses in Orissa. Once more I would like to draw your attention that the standard policy for raiding any house is 'only when there is a definite information'. This was stated by the Finance Minister long before and this month while speaking on the budget also. In spite of that I do not believe that during these three or four months this new Government in Orissa could find out that all the 11 Ministers and their Chief Minister were corrupt and they had all the information available with them. In view of this I strongly believe and it was

[Shri Santosh Bagrodia]

published also that this has been done because of the election manifesto that when we come into power we will raid all the opposition leaders' houses. If that is true we are forming a very very bad precedent. This is witch-hunting, this is a political vendetta. We are establishing a precedent which will destroy the basic democracy in the country. I am not trying to support any corrupt, let us be very clear. I am not trying to say that you do not raid a house if you have a definite information, but do you have the right to raid the house just because they are your political opponents? I believe this is a rehearsal which is being done in conjunction with the Central Government so that the same actions can continue with the ex-Ministers and other political leaders of Congress(I) all over the country. If this is the intention of the Government I warn the Government that they will not be successful. On the other hand, this will be the Waterloo of the Government if it tried to adopt any vindictive approach against political leaders of the Congress(I). So much publicity is being given to get political mileage out of it. It is being done to destroy the image of political opponents. This should not be allowed. Once a individual is proved guilty, the Government can print all the details. But the Government cannot give a judgement before the guilt is established and punishment given.

It appears that the present Government only wants to harass the political leaders of Orissa. I would just like to draw your attention to the news report that incriminating papers were found at Mr. Patnaik's Delhi flat. And what were the papers which were found at his Delhi flat? First of all, I understand that he does not have a flat here. Secondly, according to whatever is published here, bank account receipts for Rs. 1.5 lakh were found there. Now is it a very corrupt thing to have Rs. 1.5 lakhs in the bank accounts?

In view of this, I strongly request the Government that even if these raids are taking place, they should not be published. Let them go ahead. Let them

find out who the culprits are. Let them find out who are the people who have done any kind of corruption. And if their guilt is established, they should be punished as per the law of the country. I have no objection to that. And once the punishment is given, let them publish all the details in the papers. But trying to get political mileage with this kind of advance publicity is going to be very derogatory if the houses of people like Mr. K. C. Lenka, former PCC President, Mr. J. B. Patnaik, the former Chief Minister, and former Ministers like Mr. Harihar Karan, Mr. J. K. Patnaik, Mr. Niranjan Patnaik, Mr. Habibullah Khan, Mr. K. C. Patel, Mr. Nagarjun, Pradhan and Mr. Muzafar Husain Khan are searched and publicity given. It has been made to appear as if the entire Ministry was creating corruption for 12 years that it was there. If they would have been corrupt for 12 years, they would have gone long before.

And the last point I want to make is that their newspapers—even the newspaper of the son-in-law of Mr. Patnaik—have been closed. This issue was also raised by Mr. Kapil Verma in the morning. The presses have been closed. These have been sealed. If there is any corruption involved, let them continue with their investigation. But they cannot throttle the voice of the free press. They must make sure that the press is opened immediately and that there is no disturbance done in the regular activities of the press. In the meantime, they can continue with their enquiries.

Thank you.

श्री सुरेश पचौरी (मध्य प्रदेश) :
महोदय, यह बहुत गंभीर मामला है, प्रेस की स्वतंत्रता पर प्रहार है यदि प्रेस के साथ ऐसा व्यवहार किया गया है। साथ ही एक दल विशेष के नेताओं के यहां छापे डाले जाना राजनीतिक ईर्ष्या और द्वेष भाव से प्रेरित किया गया काम माना जायेगा। इस संबंध में आपकी तरफ से निर्देशन होना चाहिये कि बदले की भावना से किया गया काम बन्द हो।

DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Corruption should be dealt with a strong hand.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA (Uttar Pradesh): Government trying to throttle free press is a very very serious matter. Government must intervene and the papers must be restarted. The seal or lock put on the press should be broken and the press should be allowed to function. The editorial office should be opened. In the meanwhile, they can continue with the enquiry. If they want the account books, they can take them. But the press should not be disturbed.

श्री राम नरेश यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, यह प्रश्न बहुत ही गंभीर है। बदले की भावना से सरकार ने जिस तरह से छापे मारने की कार्यवाही की है, छापा मारा है और साथ ही साथ प्रेस के ऊपर भी जिस तरह से वहां पर हमले किये जा रहे हैं, यह बहुत ही घृणित और निन्दनीय कार्य है। सरकार को इस तरह से बदले की भावना में नहीं करना चाहिये और यदि सरकार का यही रवैया रहा तो जिस तरह से असंतोष भड़केगा, मान्यवर, बहुत ही खतरनाक होगा और इस तरह की कार्यवाही जबकि लोग कहते हैं कि बदले की भावना में कार्यवाही नहीं हो रही है, यह हमारे जनतंत्र पर, भी राजनीति करने वाले लोगों के लिये भी एक बहुत ही गलत तरीके से अन्याय करने की कोशिश की जा रही है। इस पर सरकार को बहुत ही गंभीरता से ध्यान देना चाहिये और यह कहना चाहिये कि किसी भी नेता के खिलाफ जो राजनीति में है, बदले की भावना से कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की जायेगी। यह सदन को आश्वासन देना चाहिये, जनता को बताना चाहिये। यह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दा है। मैं भी इससे अपने को संबद्ध करता हूं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. A. BABY): I had requested you to speak on the Special Mention standing in your name. I requested you to speak on your Special Mention... (Interruptions) ...

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, please give me one minute, on this issue. On behalf of my party...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, will you allow me also? I also want to speak... (Interruptions)...

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: I associate fully... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Sir, will you allow me?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. A. BABY): No, we cannot convert this into a discussion.

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Sir, association you have been allowing. On behalf of my party, I want to associate fully with the sentiments expressed by my friend.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. A. BABY): That is sufficient.

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: No. Why hurry? You have been allowing it. I actually condemn the Government action on sealing the press. If they have done anything wrong, the law should take the proper course. The press should be opened and the journalists should be allowed to work.

Demand for abolition of practice of carrying Night-Soil on human heads

श्री राम नरेश यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, इस विशेष उल्लेख के माध्यम से एक ऐसे महत्वपूर्ण और शर्मनाक विषय पर जो समाज के लिए भी कलक है और देश के लिए भी जबर्दस्त कलंक नहीं अभिशाप भी है उसकी ओर ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता है। आज भी समाज में जिस तरह से मानव द्वारा मानव के मल-मूत्र नाईट सॉयल को धोया जा रहा है यह प्रथा बहुत ही खतरनाक है। इस समय देश के सभी राज्यों में जितनी हमारी नगरपालिकाएं हैं, टाउन एरियाज हैं, या और भी शहर हैं उनमें भी हमारे देश के इंसान मजबूरीवश इस काम को करते हैं। गांधी जी ने रंगभेद के खिलाफ अफ्रीका में जिस तरह से आंदोलन छेड़ा था उसी