

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think that should finish it. Anything else that Mr. Dinesh Goswami wants to have?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: May I tell you what the trouble is? There was a newspaper item that cars were lying unused. Have you seen the word "imported" in part (a) of the question? They are all, probab'y, locally manufactured which are rotting there, as you say. If you had not used the word "imported", the question would have been different.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, have you ever seen Members not creating any trouble like this?

Improvement in the situation in Punjab after ban on Dal Khalsa

*205. SHRI N. P. CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the situation in Punjab has improved after banning the Dal Khalsa and Khalistan Council;

(b) if so, whether all the persons connected with the Khalistan movement have been arrested, and what is the number of arrests made so far; and

(c) what steps are being taken to curb the activities of these organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR):

(a) Yes, Sir. It has helped in improving the situation.

(b) and (c) According to information furnished by the State Government about 60 activists of the Khalistan agitation have been arrested. Efforts are afoot to apprehend other activists and supporters of the organisations. The Government are keeping a close watch over the situation and will be taking appropriate action as may be required under the law.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Now that we have a new President, all these troubles should stop.

SHRI N. P. CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: Sir, in Punjab the Dal Khalsa people were responsible for taking away the plane and those people are in Pakistan still and they have not been brought here. And there are other people doing the same thing here in Punjab also. There is no law and order, actually. Every day, even before the temples, we see that cows' heads are put and troubles are started. And we have seen in papers reports that Bhindranwale was going in a bus and stopping at bus stops with machine-guns and other things without licences. I do not understand why the Government is not taking action charging them for not having licences. How are they getting machine-guns without licences? What is happening is that the Department which is aware of all these things closes its eyes.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, it is true that in Punjab the activists of the Dal Khalsa movement are engaging themselves in a lot of unlawful activities. We have recently, even three days back, arrested a group of people. Immediately when the arrest takes place, it is converted into a communal tension. They start morchas and then they take recourse to offending the sentiments of the other community, namely, the Hindus, and then a retaliation takes place and it escalates communal passions. Therefore, the Government has to go wary in this matter. We are trying to arrest as many people as possible. We have so far arrested 60 people of the Dal Khalsa. The hon. Member himself knows that it was not possible to arrest these people and we have arrested 60 people of the Dal Khalsa. We are proceeding cautiously. We have to see that it is suppressed.

SHRI N. P. CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: Sir, he referred to the fact that recently some people have been arrested for not having licences for

small firearms. Though small people with revolvers and other things have been arrested, what about the big people who are using machine-guns? Why can't the Home Ministry ask the State Government to take firm action? Unless the Central Government asks the State Government to take firm action, they will show indifference. I am cent per cent in agreement with him that the minority community feelings must be respected, but that cannot be the guise for using machine-guns and other things and murdering people. That I am bringing to the notice of the Minister. May I ask the Home Minister to take firm action? He has seen in papers reports about people having machine-guns and other things at bus stops. What action have they taken?

MR. CHAIRMAN: "What action" has been added, to a large amount of lecturing.

SHRI N. P. CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: He did not reply. That is why I had to repeat.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Mere anger does not produce results.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But you are always very calm.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Actually the hon. Member knows—I did not want to go into it, but he prods me to go into it—that many of these people are taking shelter in religious institutions, gurudwaras and all that. Under the Criminal Procedure Code, if you want to go into a religious place you have first to give a notice and then only go. If the accused or the suspected persons leave one place and go to another, what do we find? Therefore, it is not very effective. We try to arrest them as soon as they come out in the open and when they are parading in the streets. Then we are able to arrest them. We do not want to create or escalate communal tension by going into gurudwaras or places of religious worship and create a problem. Then the remedy will be worse than the disease.

SHRI PILOO MODY: I am surprised that the Home Minister should make that statement.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I suppose one must be realistic. You know that under the law you can do so many things. But would you like a state of conflagration to be brought about in a State. Would you like escalation of communal passions? We do not want to do that. In fact, we are...

SHRI PILOO MODY: I am in agreement with you. But don't make that statement.

SHRI KHUSHWANT SINGH: Sir, it must be evident from the Home Minister's reply that movements of the kind that is being sponsored by the Dal Khalsa, have to be met politically. You have to be able to persuade the Sikh masses that it is suicidal and that it is in their own interests that they should themselves disassociate with the movements of this kind. But arresting people, banning the movement, shooting them and giving the impression that they are killed in encounters are being totally counter productive. I do not know whether the Home Minister is aware of writings in the Gurmukhi Press by many organisations with innocuous names which are propagating the same kind of belief that the Dal Khalsa itself is doing. That is my first question, whether the Home Minister is aware of this.

The second and even more important question is, knowing the pattern of minority politics in the country, that if the parties are in power they become immediately patriotic and nationalistic but as soon as they are out of power they start talking of discrimination and develop fissiparous tendencies, in view of that, is there any plan now to resume talks with the Akali leaders, which the Prime Minister had had some months ago with them? Is there any time-schedule when she will meet them again?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, the hon. Member asked whether Government is aware that the communal passions would not be further inflamed. Well, Government have been following a policy of trying to assuage the feelings of the communities as much as possible. In fact, that is why, in spite of some provocative acts, we continue to deal with them in a very mild and conciliatory manner. If, in spite of it, some sections continue to indulge in violent acts and disruption of law and order situation, then, Government cannot be a silent spectator. It has to take some action, and this is the thing that is being done.

So far as reconciliation is concerned, Sir, the hon. Member is aware that we have constituted the Integration Council in Punjab, and we have brought all the people, the members of the Akali Dal, and every other section, the Hindus, the minorities and everybody together, and the Chief Minister called a meeting. He wanted to see...

SHRI PILOO MODY: Parsis?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Parsis are not included.

SHRI PILOO MODY: They would not succeed.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: In fact, if the parties had been called, it would have been written off even before we had started. We called only the minorities, not the parties, all the sections of the society, the religious minorities and all that. Unfortunately this meeting was boycotted by that community. I would like the hon. Member to use his influence with the community. It is very unfortunate that they did so when the Punjab Chief Minister tried to find some solution to the problem by discussion, by having a dialogue, with all these people. He called a meeting of the National Integration Council. Yet the com-

munity did not attend. Therefore, they are frustrating every effort to find a harmonious and peaceful solution.

SHRI KHUSHWANT SINGH: Mr. Chairman, I specifically asked the question of resuming the talks with the Akali leaders by the Centre, which the Prime Minister had had some time ago. Thereafter, the Akali leaders have been making loud protestations that the ball is in the court of the Government.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Sir, I had indicated privately and publicly that I was willing to continue the talks. But every now and then we read in the news papers the announcements from the Akali side that the talks are over and that there is no question of talks. So far as we are concerned, we are always willing.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why it is over, I do not know.

SHRI DHARM CHANDER: Is the hon. Minister aware that the Gurmat Camp was held between July, 6 and 11 in the border town of Poonch and that these extremists visited that camp and raised anti-national slogans there?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, I did not follow...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not been able to follow the question.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I plead guilty.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But you are not alone. Mr. Dharm Chander, please repeat your question. You can come forward and speak into the mike.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Mr. Sezhiyan has heard it. He can say.

SHRI ERA SEZHIYAN: He wants to know whether the Minister is aware that on July, 6 and 7...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We do not want interpreters in the House.

SHRI DHARM CHANDER: From July, 6 to 11, a Gurmat camp was held in the border town of Poonch at the Nagali Saheb Gurudwara and some extremists visited the camp and raised anti-national and anti-social slogans and indulged in anti-national activities. I would like to know whether the Home Minister is aware of this or not.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I require notice for this question.

श्री हुसमदेव नारायण दादव : सभापति महोदय, मैं सरकार से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या भारत सरकार इसी तरह से विधवा विलाप करती रहेगी। देश में जो सांप्रदायिक तनाव बढ़ रहा है कहीं गुरुद्वारा कहीं मंदिर कहीं मस्जिद का उन के द्वारा इस्तेमाल होता है और अराजक तत्व उस में धर्म विरोधी काम भी करते हैं राष्ट्र विरोधी काम भी करते हैं तो उस से निपटने के लिये सरकार को सभी धर्म के मानने वालों और सभी संप्रदायों के लोगों को इकट्ठा करके राष्ट्र-हित में कोई सहमति बनानी चाहिए ताकि मस्जिदों मंदिरों और गुरुद्वारों का इस्तेमाल राष्ट्र विरोधी कामों में न हो ? और यदि ऐसा कोई करता है तो उस से निपटने के लिये सरकार को उसी ढंग से चलना चाहिए, न कि इस ढंग से और दूसरे कि जो दल खालसा है उस के पास जो हथियार आदि पकड़े गये हैं वह सारे हिन्दुस्तान के बने हैं क्या ? यदि हाँ तो वे उनको कहां से मिले हैं और यदि वे विदेशी है तो विदेशी हथियार उन के पास कैसे पहुँचे। यह तब तक संभव नहीं हो सकता जब तक कि राजनीतिक तौर पर सत्ताशुद्ध दल के द्वारा उन को आंतरिक समर्थन न हो,। तो क्या सरकार इस संबंध में कोई स्पष्टीकरण देगी ?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, Government will not do anything to escalate communal tensions. Therefore, even if the hon. Member says that we must take very firm action against people who are using the temples and the gurudwaras and all that, we are not going to be persuaded to do any such thing. On the contrary,...

SHRI SADASHIV BAGAITKAR: Why don't you take the help of religious heads to create some sort of a consensus that religious places may not be used for such purposes?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has not finished.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: We will not, I will again repeat, Government will not do anything to escalate communal passions and tensions. We will try our utmost to bring about a reconciliation between parties and that is why we have constituted this National Integration Council in which all the communities are members and in which we try our best to see that some solution is arrived at with the consent of the parties. This is the line which we will take and we will not be persuaded to take any other line.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, there is another part of the question. (Interruptions) Where are they getting arms—local or foreign—and are you doing anything about it?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I will answer it. If we catch hold of them, then we interrogate them and then we get this information.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not able to catch them?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: We have not been able to catch them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: From where do you begin?

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: We would like to know

whether you are prepared to call a conference of the religious leaders to prevent the use of religious places or places of worship for subversive activities. That is the question.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: And, my answer which you did not...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Reddy, you are speaking without my permission.

SHRI P. O. MODY: And he is explaining without your permission.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Shahabuddin.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I fully endorse the view of my honourable colleague, Mr. Khushwant Singh, that this problem cannot be met merely by force, it has to be met through political means. I may add to that that perhaps Punjab has some economic grievances with regard to its development which need also to be looked into. Now my question is that Dal Khalsa and Khalistan Council have come into prominence of late and the people are yet rather confused about the identity of the people involved. Does the Government have complete information now about the organisational structure of Dal Khalsa and of the Khalistan movement, namely, the names of its office-bearers, the names of the members of its executive committee and of its council, and can the Government assure us that all the leading lights of these movements are among those who have been taken into custody—the figure of 60 that was mentioned? I would also like the Minister to enlighten us whether there is any organic relationship between the Khalistan movement or the Khalistan Council as it has been put in the question, and the Dal Khalsa.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: We have arrested one person, one Mr. Harsimaran Singh, and according to the information obtained by interrogation of this person, it is understood that this organisation, namely, Dal Khalsa, Khalistan movement, has a

membership of 3000, and it has seven units in Chandigarh, Ropar, Hoshiarpur, Patiala, Gurdaspur, Kapurthala and Phonta in Himachal Pradesh. And then at this time there is some information that this Harsimaran Singh has been removed from the presidency and another person, Thekedar Jaswant Singh, has been made the chief pramukh, and the executive of the organisation is being now reorganised by him. Its headquarters is now Guru Nanak Nivas in the premises of the Golden Temple, Amritsar.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Are the organisations identical or is there any linkage between them?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: We cannot say that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Rameshwar Singh, I will give you a chance, but please be sure, don't start something else.

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : हमारे ऊपर
ऐसी विशेष कृपा क्यों हो जाती है। कृपया
श्री अरविन्द गणेश कुलकर्णी 2-3
मिनट दे दें बारह बजे के पहले।
... (व्यवधान)

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : श्रीमन् जैसा कि
मंत्री जी ने कहा, और लोगों ने भी कहा कि
पोलिटिकल तरीके से दल खालसा के
साथ व्यवहार सरकार को करना चाहिए।
यह बहुत गम्भीर मामला है। श्रीमन्,
गुरुनानक देव जी ने.....

श्री सभापति : वहां से मत चलिये,
आज तो 520 साल हो गया उस बात को।

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : श्रीमन् अगर
हम अपने अतीत को याद नहीं करेंगे तो
हम अपने पद से हट जायेंगे। गुरुनानक देव
जी ने सिक्ख धर्म का निर्माण किया था देश की
हिफाजत और धर्म की रक्षा के लिए लेकिन
क्या आज यह सही नहीं है कि आजादी
के बाद इस वातावरण को शायद ज्यादा

फैलाया गया कि सिक्ख दूसरा धर्म है, सिक्ख और हिन्दू भिन्न-भिन्न हैं? क्या यह पोलिटिकल तौर पर और सरकारी तौर पर प्रचारित नहीं किया गया ?

दूसरा प्रश्न इससे जुड़ा है कि क्या यह सही नहीं है कि दल खालसा को जो चंडीगढ़ में मीटिंग हुई थी उसमें मौलाना बुखारी साहब मौजूद नहीं थे ? उस दिन जो कमेटी बनाई गई थी जिसके निर्माण में मौलाना बुखारी साहब मौजूद थे । तो मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सही नहीं है कि दल खालसा के निर्माण में (व्यवधान)

श्रीमती सरोज खापड़ : क्या आप प्रश्न पूछ रहे हैं या कोई लैक्चर दे रहे हैं ?

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : आपकी शक्ल प्रधान मंत्री जी ने देख ली । आपको परमिट मिल गया (व्यवधान)

श्रीमती सरोज खापड़ : आप सवाल पूछिये । (व्यवधान)

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : अभी तो हाउसिंग कमेटी को चेयरमैन हुई है । ... (व्यवधान)

श्री समापति : आप बराय मेहरबानी के उनसे न उलझिये । लेडीज का विकार आप कायम रखिये । (व्यवधान)

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : श्रीमन् मेरा यह प्रश्न है कि यह बहुत ही गम्भीर मामला है मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि बुखारी साहब उस मीटिंग में मौजूद थे या नहीं ? उस मीटिंग में उपस्थित रहने का वजह से क्या लोगों में यह गलतफहमी पैदा नहीं हुई कि इस आंदोलन के पीछे कुछ ऐसे तत्वों का हाथ है जो इसको बढ़ावा देना चाहते हैं ? साथ ही साथ मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि *

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not to be recorded. Mr. Rameshwar Singh.

*Not recorded.

I have instructed the Reporters not to record it.

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : इसको मैं छोड़ देता हूँ । यह उनकी पहले की बात है । मेरी मजबूरी है । ये लोग केवल हल्ला करने लग जाते हैं । यह पहले की बात मैं कह रहा हूँ आज की नहीं । (व्यवधान) मैं इसे छोड़ ही दे रहा हूँ । मेरा प्रश्न है कि क्या सरकार में कुछ ऐसे लोग हैं जो भिंडर वाले ग्रुप को प्रश्रय दे रहे हैं और इस आंदोलन को बढ़ाने में सहयोग दे रहे हैं ? यह मेरे प्रश्न हैं ।

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Mr. Chairman, on the first point whether Government propagated the view that the Sikhs are different from the Hindus, I deny this statement. Government have nothing to do with this propaganda and Government did not indulge in any such propaganda at all. On the second point whether Bukhari was present at the place, I have no information. On the third question whether Bhindranwale was supported by the Government, I totally deny it. It is unsubstantiated and unfounded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 207.

SHRI PILOO MODY: When he said that he does not even know whether Bukhari was present, how can he be positive on the first point?

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: What about 206?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 206 is probably transferred.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: No, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not in my bunch. Sorry, I turned two sheets together. Mistakes do take place. Mistake has taken place. Yes, Question No. 206.