

REFERENCE TO NUCLEAR DEVICE ON NANDA DEVI

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): Mr. Bhu-pesh Gupta. Special Mention.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): I am grateful to the Chairman that at long last I have got a chance of raising the matter by way of Special Mention. I wanted to have it raised through a Half-an-Hour discussion—two notices I gave—but the Chairman was not pleased to admit any of them.

Today's Statesman—and other papers also—carry a news item datelined Washington to the effect that two US Congressmen and a scientist criticised President Carter for failing to tell the Americans as much about the CIA spy device in the Himalayas as Mr. Desai had explained to the Indian public. Sir, here again we find from the same report: "The, second Congressman, Mr. Andrew Maguire, a member of the Democratic Party from New Jersey, said that neither the Indian nor the American public had been given a proper assessment of the 'hazards' of radioactivity involved should a leakage occur in a plutonium-powered spy mechanism which had been lost before proper placement on Nanda Devi. The CIA, with Indian help, attempted to place it there to monitor Chinese nuclear tests in Sinkiang in the mid-1960s." This is what they say. There are other aspects also of this.

Now, Sir, the matter came up lately in this House, on the 12th of May. Sir, we spoke, Mr. Morarji Desai also spoke, on the subject. Here, Jagjit Singh Anand, our comrade, asked a question about it. Jagjit Anand said it was really a CIA project which was brought here and with which the Government of India collaborated through its Intelligence Branch. Then Mr. Morarji Desai said—this was in reply to Starred Question No. 395 of 12th May: "What has the CIA to do with this? This was started from here and the help of

America was taken, as I have said earlier." This is Mr. Morarji Desai's statement. Again, Sir, we pressed that point. Then Mr. Morarji Desai again said, "It started from India." This is what he said. Again when Comrade Jagjit Singh Anand pursued this matter, Mr. Morarji Desai indulged in petty politics. He said, "I do not know why the CIA is on his brains at all. Let the KGB also be* on his brains."

First of all, the Prime Minister of a country is not expected to make such a statement. Now does the KGB come in here? He has his views and I have my views on many things. Here he got so annoyed because of our exposure of the CIA. Being the Prime Minister of the country he should know his position. Here is a friendly country which has been helping you all these critical days and on that country he made an aspersion.

Well, Sir, I am not going into this. Then Comrade Anand said, "The KGB is always on his brains." Sir, he is the Prime Minister. How does the KGB come in? The CIA was involved in the training of the CBI. Now, Sir, this is what he said.

Sir, when I raised this, Mr. Morarji Desai could not answer because the Question Hour was over.

Today I wish to bring to your notice that the scheme originated in the United States of America. As I have just read out two US Congressmen said it. American scientists have said it. And how did we come to know? Not because the Government of India told us nor because the American authorities told us.

We came to know of it or the world came to know of it through an article published in some journal by Howard Kohn. The article is captioned: "How CIA Planted the Spy Device". This article is published in a not very well-known American journal. Sir, I should only like to

read out to you just one or two things and seek clarifications from the Government if they can give. In that article it is said:

"The Nanda Devi project began as a sort of high-minded compromise. China had exploded a nuclear bomb at Lop Nor in barren Sinkiang province on October 16, 1964. It was China's first nuclear success."

After that, the CIA made a plan and it went to the President of the United States, Mr. Lyndon Johnson. This is what Mr. Kohn writes in his article:

"President Lyndon Johnson dismissed both ideas as opposite extremes and instead acceded to the CIA's alternative proposal; a spy mission to measure China's nuclear capabilities."

Thus, we are told by an American journalist that it is a CIA project. Further Mr. Kohn writes:

"The CIA solicited American climbers with previous high Himalayan and Alaskan experience, and many gladly agreed to help. The CIA's proposition included a guarantee of 1000 dollars (Rs. 9000) a month for a job estimated to take about a year, plus Q free and exotic trip, an exciting climb and a modest patriotic benediction."

Then the article, goes on to say:

"In all, 14 American climbers signed on with the CIA, though ultimately only nine were sent to India. They were joined by four of India's best mountaineers from the 1962 Indian Everest expedition."

In addition, the CIA had the unofficial co-operation of its Indian counterpart, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

He does not know. It is the IB actually.

"American undercover agents on the CBI payroll co-opted Indian intelligence, setting up the arrange-428 RS—3

ment on an informal basis to preserve the CIA's absolute authority over the project. The CIA demanded that the CBI, which relies heavily on the U.S. spy expertise, keep the affair secret even from officials of the government."

Then again:

"The CIA did give President Johnson a general outline of the project, but the agency also asked him not to notify the Indian government, a circumstance that later became another reason for the U.S. coverup."

Now, these are the statements in the article of Howard Kohn which reveal the planting of this thing. This is the position. I should like to make an observation here first of all, that the Prime Minister misled the House. He made a statement in the House and also in the other House in which he said very clearly—the statement is with me—I do not know why the Prime Minister was so keen on protecting the CIA:

"Mr. Speaker, I can recall the critical situation. The authorities concerned in India at the highest level..."

1 P.M.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, are you quoting from the proceedings of the other House?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: No, this statement was made later in this House also. The Prime Minister made a statement in this House also.

"The authorities concerned in India at the highest level assessed the situation in terms of certain precautionary and effective devices to identify the various effects and contingencies and decided upon the measure which I have outlined above."

[Sfari Bhupesh Gupta] The contradiction is quite clear. Mr. Morarji Desai was doing it.

I should like to make one or two observations and then I will finish.

The first is the Prime Minister misled us. The Americans are now objecting that the President did not take them into confidence. I charge Mr. Morarji Desai is shielding the CIA in this matter. As far as the previous Governments were concerned, I deplore the decision. Collaboration with the CIA was a shameful decision. It may have been done by any Government, but it is shameful. I have no hesitation in condemning and criticising it in the strongest terms. At that time there was a proposal even to get an air umbrella; there was to be an agreement within six weeks of the ceasefire on the Indo-China border between the U.S. President and the British Prime Minister at Nassau to deliver arms to India. There was a proposal for air cover. Military aides were rushed to influence India. There is an interesting book written by the famous Neville Maxwell. In that book he described Intelligence Branch as the kingpin of the CIA's anti-China activity in India. CIA collaboration was there. In this House in 1950s I exposed how the Central Intelligence Bureau and the CIA collaborated in the Himalayas in order to create tension between us and China and in favour of Dalai Lama. As far as the previous Government is concerned, I condemn that decision. But why should Mr. Morarji Desai forget the fact that when the second device was planted in 1967 on another peak in the Nandadevi region Mr. Morarji Desai was the Deputy Prime Minister of the country? Therefore, he must share the blame, the responsibility. It was there for one year and during this one year he was the Deputy Prime Minister of the country. Am I to take it that he did not know anything? Am I to take it that he was kept completely ignorant about it?

SHRI PILOO MODY (Gujarat):
Yes.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Mr. Morarji Desai was part of the Congress leadership and the Government when it came here in early 60s, when the first device was brought. Mr. Morarji Desai knows his own complicity. Who does not know, Mr. Biju Patnaik, at that time Chief Minister of Orissa, was on a special assignment given by the Prime Minister to organise guerillas and intelligence in the mountain area? Mr. Biju Patnaik was also involved in it. Now he is in the Government. Conveniently these are not mentioned. Everybody knows it. Mr. Biju Patnaik had an office in the South Block, a secret office, and he was in operation. But I do not wish to go into the details of it now. All that I would like to say is that we deplore all such action. And Mr. Morarji Desai should not try to make out as if he is not responsible. He is angry with us because we mentioned CIA. Whom should we mention?

SHRI PILOO MODY: KGB.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Why is he now shielding the CIA? Is it a part of your foreign policy? Now when the Americans are shouting at the CIA and the American Congress is demanding more and more facts from the American President about the CIA, our Prime Minister here comes and says, the CIA has nothing to do with it. Is it because Mr. Morarji Desai had something to do with it when he was the Deputy Prime Minister? Collaboration with the CIA was done surely with Mr. Morarji Desai's knowledge. That is why he wants to take the CIA out of it for covering up his past for the present policy, the foreign policy of the Government, is this: Don't disturb the CIA and the Americans; bring in the KGB and other irrelevancies and talk about them. Sir, the most objectionable thing is this. I do not know how to set the record straight. The Prime Minister has deliberately misled the

Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha by making a statement in which he seeks to protect the CIA. The statement is contradicted by all the official and non-official pronouncements in the United States of America. The documentary evidence before the Congress and in the American Press shows that the whole project of trying to place the device on the Himalayas was conceived in the CIA headquarters and was approved by the Pentagon and the White House by the U.S. President. At that time and the Americans were taking advantage of the difficulties in which we were placed. They were offering so many things, as you know, Sir, like air umbrella, air cover, military aid and so many things to get India on their side. All these are well-known facts. But Jawaharlal Nehru did not allow some of the things to happen.

SHRI ANANT PRASAD SHARMA (Bihar): Yes.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Now, Sir, is it proper for the Prime Minister of the country to get up here and shield in a blatant manner the CIA plot, implemented in co-operation with the Central Intelligence here? I should like the Government to inquire into this since they are inquiring into so many matters. Hazards are there. Everybody says that there are hazards. And, Sir, the Americans are worried. But our Government is not worried. The Americans are worried about it. But our Government is not worried at all. The American scientists are saying that this is a great hazard. In this connection, Sir, I would like to point out what they have said.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, you have made that point. Now, can we adjourn for lunch?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Now, I am finishing, Sir. The Americans have pointed out similar leak-out elsewhere when they showed concern. They say that you should be concerned as

to what will happen in the Himalayas and they say that the danger is great, that the hazard is great. This is what the American Congressmen have pointed out.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): Please conclude.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, I would like to ask the Government to divulge the name of the Intelligence Officer who had been deputed by the previous Government to collaborate with the CIA, to divulge the name of the CIA official who came here and to divulge the names of those people who participated in this project and in the implementation of this project and planted it here so that we might know as to who they are. Sir we are shocked by the manner in which the Prime Minister has behaved over this matter.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): I think you should conclude now.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: He should have been truthful, straight forward and should have told whatever he knew. I do not know whether he will come here. Yesterday, he was here and he never said anything. Sir, it is a matter of privilege. The Prime Minister has misled the House.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAJ NARAIN): How?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: He has misled the House by insinuating while giving an untruth. I do not know whether you will send it to the Privileges Committee against the Prime Minister. But he has committed a breach of privilege of this House and this I mention on the basis of the record that I have got here _____

SHRI PILOO MODY: I adjourn the House for lunch and I am going.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, at that time, Mr. Pillo Mody was wearing a badge with the words "I am a CIA agent.". He always does such things.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): Will you kindly resume your seat?

SHRI B.HUPESH GUPTA: So, I say that it seems to be the job of the Government to protect the CIA. Please stop shielding the CIA.

Finally, all I say is that this Government's policy is like that. Up till now, Sir, lest the Americans and others should become angry, they have not protested against the flogging of the journalists in Pakistan. They have not protested against the flogging of the journalists in Pakistan, against their arrest and prosecution. In Bangladesh also, they are being arrested. Mr. Advani does not utter a word of protest or a word of sympathy in favour of the journalists who are being flogged In Pakistan and who are being arrested in Bangladesh. They are being arrested in Bangladesh. Journalism is being killed in Pakistan.

**REFERENCE TO ALLEGED TAX
EVASION BY PARLE BEVERAGE CO.
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THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): Mr. Kalp Nath. Will you kindly conclude in five minutes?

श्री कल्पनाथ राय (उत्तर प्रदेश) :
उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं सरकार का ध्यान बम्बई की पार्ले बेवरेज कंपनी लिमिटेड द्वारा करोड़ों रुपयों की कर चोरी की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ। पार्ले प्राइवेट लिमिटेड और उस की दिल्ली स्थित शाखा दिल्ली बाटेलिंग कंपनी जो शीतल पेय बनाती है उन्होंने गलत विज्ञापनों के माध्यम से और सरकार को गुमराह कर के करोड़ों रुपयों

के कर की चोरी की है। अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप जानते हैं कि वित्त मंत्री महोदय ने लोक सभा में बतलाया था कि इन देश के अन्दर दो प्रकार के ड्रिक्स बनाये जाते हैं। एक तो वे जो साफ्ट ड्रिक्स होते हैं और दूसरे वे जिन में कोक शब्द का इस्तेमाल होता है। जो कंपनियां साफ्ट ड्रिक्स बनाती हैं उनको 25 प्रतिशत एक्साइस ड्यूटी देनी पड़ती है। और जो कंपनियां कोक बनाती हैं उनको 55 फीसदी एक्साइस ड्यूटी देनी पड़ती है। लेकिन इस पार्ले कंपनी की शाखा दिल्ली की बाटेलिंग कंपनी ने जो अपने को कहती है कि हम साफ्ट ड्रिक्स बनाते हैं उन्होंने अपने विज्ञापनों में और हर जगह अपने को रेफ्रेशिंग कोला बनाने वाला कह कर प्रचारित किया है और सब अखबारों में उन के एडवर्टाईजमेंट्स हैं जिनमें उन्होंने अपने को रेफ्रेशिंग कोला लिखा है कि हम वह बनाते हैं। सरकार पार्लियामेंट में कहती है कि वह साफ्ट ड्रिक्स बनाते हैं, वित्त मंत्री साफ्ट ड्रिक्स बनाये जाने की घोषणा करते हैं और कहते हैं कि दिल्ली बाटेलिंग कंपनी जो ड्रिक्स बनाती है उसमें कोला एक्सट्रैक्ट नहीं है, दूसरी तरफ वह अपने विज्ञापनों में अपने अखबारों के माध्यम से और दूसरे अनेकों प्रकार से कहते हैं कि हम रेफ्रेशिंग कोला बनाते हैं। इस तरह से पांच करोड़ रुपया एक्साइस ड्यूटी की नोरी इस कंपनी ने की है। मैं वित्त मंत्री महोदय से, स्वास्थ्य मंत्री महोदय से, कृषि मंत्री महोदय से और उद्योग मंत्री महोदय से विवेदन करूंगा क्योंकि इसका संबंध इन चारों से है। अगर एडल्टरेटेड ड्रिक्स इस मुल्क में चलेंगे तो इस से देश की जनता को और उपभोक्ताओं को धोखा ही दिया जायेगा। अगर जनता को एडल्टरेटेड फूड दिया जायेगा तो उस से देश की जनता को महान कष्ट होगा और कृषि मंत्रालय जिस को परिधि में प्रिवेंशन आफ फूड एडल्टरेशन आता है। उस की जिम्मेदारी है कि वह इस प्रकार के कामों को खतरो को रोके। उन्होंने इस बारे में कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की है। वित्त मंत्री ने लोक