

**REFERENCE TO ISSUE OF COMMEMORATION STAMP IN HONOUR OF DR. IQBAL**

श्री खुरशीद आलम खान (दिल्ली) : जनाब मैं बहुत अफसोस के साथ, लेकिन आपके जरिये से एक चीज इस सदन की नोटिस में लाना चाहता हूँ और वह है मशहूर शायर डा० इकबाल की सद साला पैदाइश जो अभी हम लोगों ने मनाई। मुझे मालूम हुआ था कि हमारी पिछली गवर्नमेंट ने यह तय किया था पोस्ट एण्ड टेलीग्राफ डिपार्टमेंट इस सिलसिले में एक स्टैप जारी करेगा, एक खास टिकट जारी करेगा जैसा कि आम तौर पर होता है। लेकिन इस हुकूमत ने जब से चार्ज लिया है और इनको मालूम हुआ कि इस किस्म का टिकट जारी किया जाएगा तो न सिर्फ अहकाम को, उन हुकों को रद्द कर दिया, लेकिन वह टिकट छपने से रोक दिया गया और डा० इकबाल जैसे शायर के लिए वह टिकट हम अपने देश में नहीं निकाल सके। यह बड़े अफसोस की बात यों भी मालूम होती है कि डा० इकबाल किसी खास मुल्क के शायर नहीं थे और न वह किसी खास मुल्क के शायर थे तो वह हिन्दुस्तान के शायर थे, हिन्दुस्तान में पैदा हुए, हिन्दुस्तान में मरे और हिन्दुस्तान में ही वह दफन हुए। यह अफसोस की बात है कि उनकी पैदाइश का मुल्क जहाँ कि—‘सारे जहाँ से अच्छा हिन्दोस्ताँ हमारा’ आज भी गाया जाता है, उसमें उनको इतनी भी इज्जत नहीं दे सका कि उनके लिए हम एक टिकट निकाल सकते।

मुझे इसमें यह भी कहने में शर्म नहीं आती कि जब दूसरे मुल्कों ने उनको इतनी इज्जत दी, उनके कलाम का तर्जमा किया अपनी जुबानों में, उनके लिए तरह तरह के जलसे और जलूस निकाले गये, हमारे देश में ऐसा मालूम हुआ कि डा० इकबाल यहाँ के रहने वाले नहीं थे। क्या वे उर्दू के शायर थे क्या सिर्फ उनका यही कसूर था? क्या वे मुसलमान शायर थे उनका यही कसूर था? मैं सम-

झता हूँ कि यह इतनी बड़ी भूल है, इसको हुकूमत को मानना चाहिए और अपनी गलती का ऐहतराफ करना चाहिए इसलिए कि इकबाल से ज्यादा वतन-परस्त शायर यहाँ आज भी देश में दूसरा नहीं है। ये वे इकबाल थे जिन्होंने कहा था—“खाके वतन का मुझ को हर जरा देवता है।” वह अपने वतन का हर जरा देवता मानते थे और इस वतन की खातिर उन्होंने इस वतन के गीत गाये, उन्होंने हिमाला की चोटी के गीत गाये, उन्होंने गंगा के गीत गाये लेकिन ऐसे शायर के लिए हम यह भी न कर सके कि एक टिकट उनके लिए निकाल देते, मैं समझता हूँ कि यह इतिहाई शर्म की बात है कि हमारा पी० एण्ड टी० डिपार्टमेंट इसके लिए कंडम होना चाहिए और इस गलती का ऐतराफ करना चाहिए और इसकी जल्द से जल्द तलाखी करनी चाहिए।

**REFERENCE TO DEMAND FOR RESTORATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL SAFEGUARDS TO BUDHIST CONVERTS, ETC**

SHRI S. W. DHABE (Maharashtra): Mr, Deputy Chairman, sir, I am very much thankful to you for giving me permission to mention a matter of urgent public importance. Sir, Mr. N-H. Kumbhare, a Member of this House, has gone on an indefinite fast since yesterday at the Boat Club, in front of Parliament. Another person who has gone on fast is a well-known personality, Shri R. S. Gavai, Chairman of the Republican Party of India and Deputy Chairman of Maharashtra Legislative Council. Along with them there are also other leaders of this party and many others who have gone on fast. The report of the Times of India of 15th November shows that there was also the biggest demonstration by the Dalit Panthers claiming the safeguards for the Buddhists and other persons. The matter is very serious. The demands for which all this agitation is going on are:

[Shri S. W. Dhabe]

All constitutional safeguards to converted Buddhists on par with Scheduled Castes;

Central law to safeguard service privileges for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Buddhists;

Stricter Central Law to protect Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Buddhists from atrocities.

We know what has been happening all over the country and what atrocities against Harijans are committed everyday. The reports have been coming to us every now and then.

In this connection, I would like to say that this Government and the House is aware that about 50 lakhs or more people all over India from the Scheduled Castes have embraced Buddhism. Out of these 50 lakhs, 40 lakhs come from Maharashtra alone. After their conversion they were denied facilities and safeguards given to Scheduled Castes.

The problem has become grave because they have been denied the political and other rights. Sir, the Maharashtra Government had granted all the concessions, educational etc., which were in their power. When this matter was taken up in 1971, the previous Government also had extended scholarship concessions to the converted Buddhists. The Central Government was seized of the matter and an assurance was given" by the previous Government that their other matters would be considered and they would be extended benefits under the Constitution. The present leaders, the statement says, have met the Prime Minister and other authorities concerned, but no definite answer Or assurance has been given that this matter will be solved in a satisfactory way. No tangible results have come out. It appears that this conflict will go on and it will have very serious repercussions.

One anomaly has been there for the last 20 years that though they are denied the concessions, they are governed by the Hindu laws. Various Hindu Civil Codes, viz., the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act 1956 and the Hindu Minority and Guardianship Act, 1956, have been passed. The de-finition of 'Hindu' in these Acts is: Any person who is Buddhist, Jain or Sikh by religion. Therefore, there is an obvious contradiction. They are Hindus for the purpose of certain matters but for the protection under the Constitution, for getting representation, for getting other benefits, they are denied those rights because there is no modification of the Scheduled Castes order as was modified by the Order of 1956. It is, therefore, a very serious matter and in this connection; I would like to quote Dr. Ambedkar before I make a request to the Prime Minister and the Government to take up the matter seriously. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar has stated in his speech in the Constituent Assembly of India on 25th November, 1949

"How long shall we continue to this life of contradictions? How long shall we continue to deny equality in our social and economic life? If

we continue to deny it for long, we will do so only by putting our political democracy in peril."

I only want to say that this is the, warning that he gave. The basis for giving this concession was the social and economic backwardness. Time has come to revise the entire policy. The criteria that determine social and economic backwardness can be applied not only to the Scheduled Castes but also to other communities who are also craving for these concessions. It is a very serious matter. A Member of this House has gone on indefinite fast, Government has not come out with a statement, although for small matters they do so. It is such an important issue which is being agitated in my State and through-

out the country. A large number of people are involved in it. I think all 'my colleagues there will support me in this matter that the Government must make a statement here, the Prime Minister must come out with a statement that they will be given the concessions which have been denied to them and a Central law will be enacted for the purpose. If they are Hindus for the purpose of certain laws, it is highly inequitable and it does not befit any Government which speaks of democracy and equality that such an anomaly should remain in our constitutional provisions and the Central laws. I would therefore request the Prime Minister and the Government that they should not allow this situation to continue and they should announce that the Buddhists will be given all concessions which they not only deserve but are also entitled to under the law.

श्री देवराव पाटील (महाराष्ट्र) :  
माननीय उपसभापति जी, श्री धावे साहब ने बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय की ओर सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित किया है। मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूँ और सरकार से रिवेस्ट करता हूँ कि बौद्धों को सुविधाएं देने की जो मांगें रिपब्लिकन नेताओं ने सरकार के सामने रखी हैं उनकी तरफ तुरन्त ध्यान दिया जाये।

श्री उपसभापति : अब सदन की कार्यवाही ढाई बजे तक के लिए स्थगित की जाती है।

The House then adjourned for lunch at twenty seven minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty three minutes past two of the clock, The Vice-Chairman (Shri Shyam Lal Yadav) in the Chair.

**Motion re. Twenty-Sixth Annual Report of the Union Public Service Commission for the period 1st April, 1975 to 31st March, 1976**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AF-

FAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): Mr. Vice-Chairman, sir, I beg to move the following Motion:—

"That the Twenty-sixth Annual Report of the Union Public Service Commission for the period 1st April, 1975 to 31st March, 1976, together with Government's Memorandum on the cases of non-acceptance of the Commission's advice mentioned in report, laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on the 21st June, 1977, be taken into consideration."

Sir, while moving the Resolution I have to make a few submissions in support of this motion. As the hon'ble Members are aware our Constitution provides that the Annual Reports of the Union Public Service Commission should be laid before each House of Parliament. Therefore, in accordance With the provision the report was laid before the two Houses on the date I have just mentioned. As a matter of fact, article 323(1) of our Constitution does not provide for any Constitutional obligation to discuss the Report on the floor of the House, but for the convenience of the Members the Government have come up with this Motion. Government have always given due consideration and importance to the recommendations of the Commission in view of the status and functions assigned to it under the Constitution and in the larger interest of the administration. It is, therefore, only in rare cases and with the greatest reluctance, that the Commission's advice is not accepted. Cases of non-acceptance of the Commission's advice have been very few and far between and they constitute a negligible portion of the total number of cases referred to that august body each year. The number of cases of non-acceptance of the Commission's advice for the period 1975-76, as mentioned in the Commission's Report, is only four; and, of these, one is not really a case of non-accept-