

[Shri Murasoli Maran] Janata Chief Minister would support this view because sales-tax gives the main support to the revenue of the State. For example, 40 per cent to 50 per cent of the State's revenue comes from sales-tax alone. I can understand that for the sake of uniformity and convenience it is better to replace it by excise duty but it cannot happen because we have to bear this inconvenience to sustain our federal system and unity of the country. If that thing happens, if the Centre takes away the sales-tax also from the State Governments, then I think all the States will attain financial nirwana and they have to come here with begging bowls in their hands.

We all know, in several States, non-Janata Governments have come. For example, the Finance Minister of West Bengal, Dr. Ashok Mitra has said that if the Constitution was not amended to provide for decentralisation of the financial sources, public resentment would grow to flash-point and that if there was an explosion, neither the States nor the Centre might be spared. Sir, this is the speech of Dr. Ashok Mitra, the Finance Minister of West Bengal. When he said this, he did mean decentralisation of more powers to States and down to the Panchayats. It is not a Marxists' idea or a DMK idea; it is also the Janata idea and the Janata philosophy. I read from the manifesto of Janata Party:

"A high degree of centralisation Or the concentration of power is inconsistent with democracy. The Party, therefore, believes in a polity that ensures decentralisation of economic and political power."

Recently, Sir, Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan has also said:

"The Centre would handle a few subjects like international affairs and defence. With the decentralisation of powers at the Central level,

Gandhi's dream of a gram swa-rajya would come true."

This is how Mr. J. P. Narayan put it.

Now, the Finance Minister has appointed a committee on direct taxes. There are a lot of problems, financial problems, between the Centre and the States. According to the Constitution, income-tax should be shared with the States but they have just amended the Constitution. Income-tax paid by the companies is given a new name as the corporate tax and the States lose their share. Then you will have surcharge on income-tax and it cannot be shared with the States. The tax is the same, but the nomenclature is different and the States do not get a share at all. Many a State had been claiming share in the corporate tax and surcharge also. Now, as a first step in the direction of decentralisation, I request the hon. Finance Minister to refer this point also to the Direct Taxes Inquiry Committee so that those taxes are added to the divisible pool for the benefit of the States. Thank you.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION BY SHRI RAJ NARAIN

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): Before I call the next speaker, Mr. Raj Narain wants to give a personal explanation to certain matters which were alleged to have been referred to here by my friend, Mr. Harsh Deo Malaviya. Mr. Raj Narain, there are a large number of speakers. I request you to be very brief.

श्री राजनारायण (उत्तर प्रदेश) :
श्रीमन् मुझे सख्खेद कहना पड़ रहा है कि
हमारे मित्र श्री हर्षदेव मालवीय जी ने
नैशनल हेराल्ड का एक पोस्टर यहाँ कोट
किया है। मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि नैशनल
हेराल्ड ने जो कुछ भी पोस्टर निकाला है,
वह बिल्कुल असत्य है वेस-लेस है। नैशनल
हेराल्ड किसका अखबार है, इसको देश में
और बाहर सब जानते हैं।

श्रीमन्, पी० एन० कपूर के पास जो पास था, वह वैलिड पास था और उनके पास.....

SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE (Maharashtra): Sir, it would be desirable if the hon. Minister reads out the extracts so that we would be able to understand what exactly is the matter. Most of the Members were not present at that time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): Mr. Kumbhare, please sit down. He will explain that.

SHRI RAJ NARAIN: I am reading it out.

"Mr. Purushottam Nath Kapur of Lucknow, said to be the 'tantrik guru' of some political leaders, was nabbed along with a young woman by the Chief Vigilance Inspector (Railways), Mr. P. K. Takru, on July, 23, while he was travelling to Dehradun by the 2-Dn. mail train from Bara Banki in an aircondi-tioned coach on a card pass No. 1152 which was issued in the name of Mr. and Mrs. P. N. Kapur. The pass was found to be forged and his companion bogus. Mr. Kapur and the young woman were taken into custody and chargesheeted for cheating the Railways.... They were sent to the G.R.P. lock-up..... A search was made.....Kapur, according to the General Diary Report of the G.R.P. postoffice contacted Mr. Raj Narain at Delhi on phone. The Minister immediately instructed the S.P. (Railways) and the head-constable on duty to release Kapurs on bail."

श्रीमन्, सबसे पहले मैं इस समाचार की असत्यता के बारे में बोलना चाहूंगा । आज करीब 3 घंटे पहले, जब मैं यहां से गया, तो मैंने रेल मंत्री जी से सम्पर्क स्थापित किया। रेल मंत्री ने सारी इन्क्वायरी करने के बाद बताया कि श्री पी० एन० कपूर और

श्रीमती पी० एन० कपूर के नाम पर जो पास इश्यू हैं, वे बिल्कुल वैलिड हैं । वह पास इश्यू हुआ था सितम्बर, 1975 में और फिर सितम्बर 1976 तक के लिये उसे बढ़ाया गया फिर एक साल के लिये और बढ़ाया गया । वह पास उनके पास था । रेलवे मिनिस्टर ने अपने रेलवे बोर्ड के सेक्रेटरी से पूछ करके यह कहा कि हमने पूरा रजिस्टर देख लिया है और उनके नाम पास इश्यू हैं । यह मिस्टेक अगर कहीं है, तो वह हमारी है और हमारे स्टाफ की है । इसमें मि० कपूर की कोई गलती नहीं है । वह बिल्कुल वैलिड पास से जा रहे थे । उनके साथ जो भी कार्यवाही की गई वह अनुचित कार्यवाही हुई है । उन्होंने हमको यह आश्वासन दिया कि आज ही वे अपने डिपार्टमेंट की ओर से इसका खण्डन अखबार में निकालना चाहेंगे । जो यह कहा गया कि फोर्ज्ड पास था और मि० कपूर ने रेलवे को चोट करने की कोशिश की, यह बिल्कुल बेस-लेस है और किसी सम्मानित व्यक्ति को डिफेम करने की साजिश है ।

श्रीमन्, मैं बहुत ही अदब के साथ कहना चाहता हूँ कि आजकल नेशनल हेराल्ड, जिसकी सर्वे-सर्वा इंदिरा जी हैं, इस तरह के अनर्गल प्रचार हम लोगों के खिलाफ करता रहता है । यदि देखा जाय तो यह मुकदमा कहां जायेगा । उन्होंने यह भी कहा है कि इसकी पूरी इन्क्वायरी मैं अभी भी करवाऊंगा । आखिर उसने ऐसा काम क्यों किया ? हमको यह खबर दी गई थी कि

He is related to Mrs. Gandhi. Mrs. Takru had, at that time, taken grapes in large quantities. Why?

टकरू नशे में चूर था । नशे में चूर होकर टकरू ने इस तरह का कार्य किया । मुझे आपको अदब के साथ कहना है कि हमारे भाई श्री हर्षदेव मालवीय जी इस बात से निश्चिन्त हो जाएं । यहां से उठकर वे जो

[श्री राजनारायण]

हमारे मित्र दंडवते जी हैं, उनके पास जाकर पता लगा लें।

SHRI PIARE LALL KUREEL URF PIARE LALL TALIB (Uttar Pradesh): Was that young woman Mrs. Kapur? or some other woman.

श्री राजनारायण : उन्होंने खुद ही लिखा है

"Mr. Kapur and his wife were released on bail".

यह अखबारों में लिखा है। मेरा यह कहना है कि इस तरह की बातें नेशनल हेराल्ड निकालता है। हमने अखबारों को बोलने की आजादी दे दी है, जितना भी दुरुपयोग वे करना चाहें करें पर हम उन पर कोई कार्यवाही नहीं करने जा रहे हैं। मगर कुछ मर्यादित होना चाहिए, उनको संयम के साथ पता लगाना चाहिए था कि एयर कंडीशन का पास, बिलकुल वैलिड

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): You have given your personal explanation.

SHRI PIARE LALL KUREEL URF PIARE LALL TALIB: You yourself did not know whether the pass was valid or not (Interruptions).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): Mr. Malaviya, Mr. Raj Narain has given his personal explanation and now let us go on to the Finance Bill. I call Mr. Maqsood Ali Khan. (Interruptions). That is all right.

SHRI JANARDHANA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): He is accusing the newspaper. I want to know whether ... (Interruptions). How can he accuse the newspaper?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): Let us not go into it. His personal explanation is over. (Interruptions). Yes, Mr. Maqsood Ali Khan. (Interruptions). That is all right.

SHRI PIARE LALL KUREEL URF PIARE LALL TALIB: You have no right to put pressure for his release. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJNARAIN: I did not put any pressure on anybody,

मैंने दे दिया है। दो दिन में ही पता चल जाएगा कि मुकदमा किन पर चलेगा कौन कहाँ जाएगा

(Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): Hear, hear. Mr. Raj Narain has said now that he has not put any pressure. Let us record it as a personal explanation and go to the business of the House.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, उतरने वाले अभी तक पांव से न उतरे, उड़ने वाले तड़प के फलक को छू आए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): Mr. Maqsood Ali Khan, I call you, (Interruptions).

SHRI PIARE LALL KUREEL URF PIARE LALL TALIB: Had you not interfered, he would not have been released. The court would have found out whether he was the right person or not.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): All right. Let us now go to the business.

SHRI YASHPAL KAPUR (Uttar Pradesh): It is a right if the Minister has interfered and if the pass is valid or not, but how far is it correct to say that the Chief Vigilance Officer, Mr. Takru, who is not present here in this House, is related to Mrs. Indira Gandhi, who is also not present here

in this House? Has he found out whether Mr. Takru is her first cousin, or second cousin, or third cousin or tenth cousin or twentieth cousin? (*Interruptions*).

I am not going into the matter whether he was drunk or not. It is for the Railway Ministry and the Railway Police to find out. I just object to the Minister bringing in the name of Mrs. Gandhi and establishing her relationship. ... (*Interruptions*). Tomorrow if Mr. s. Gandhi contradicts it then the ruling Party will say that it is a point of privilege and all that. So, I appeal to you, Sir, that in this House such a remark should not be allowed to be put on record. It should be expunged from the record. That is my demand. This is not the way that the national leader, the ex-Prime Minister of this country, is talked about like this, in an irresponsible manner, by a Minister of the Janata Party. I demand that this remark should be expunged.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, मेरा निवेदन है कि आप श्री यशपाल कपूर जी से कहें कि बहुत जोर से और गरम हो कर बोलने की जरूरत नहीं है । अपने तर्कों को धीरे से संयम के साथ कहें । मैंने जो कुछ कहा है जिम्मेदारी के साथ कहा है कि श्री टकरू कहां-कहां और कब-कब रहे हैं । लिस्ट आ जाएगी सब पता चल जाएगा । कब दिल्ली में आए, कब दिल्ली से गए और किस से मिले । उन्होंने सारी कार्यवाही क्यों की । सारी व्यवस्था सदन के सामने पूरी तरह से आ जाएगी । इसमें श्री यशपाल कपूर जी को परेशान होने की आवश्यकता नहीं है ।

श्री प्यारे लाल कुरील उर्फ तालिब : अब मैं यहां पूछता हूं, बाहर के आदमियों का नाम क्यों लिया जाता है.....

(*Interruptions*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): Mr. Kureel, may I request you to please sit down: (*Interruptions*). Order, order. I do not want this discussion

to go on because we have got the Finance Bill. There are a large number of speakers and it is not a question of any point of order. I would, however, suggest that the hon. Members will desist from referring to the outside persons whenever they are making an explanation.

SHRI JANARDHANA REDDY: What about the remarks he has already made?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): I do not want to go further into this matter. I call Mr. Maqsood Ali Khan (*Interruptions*).

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS (Assam): Do I understand that you have said just now that nobody here, not even the Minister, should refer to anybody who is not a Member of this House?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): No, no. What I said was that it is not necessary for us to refer to extraneous matters and to persons who are not involved in the particular questions.

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: And particularly the persons who are not here to defend themselves.

SHRI RAJNARAIN: Mr. Kapur is not here. His wife is not here.

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: You also referred to Mrs. Indira Gandhi who is not here to defend herself.

SHRI RAJNARAIN: So what does it mean?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): Mr. Raj Narain, please finish. Shri Maqsood Ali Khan. There is no point of order. There is no further ruling on that. We will look into the record and see what it is.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA (Uttar Pradesh): There is one question—whether Mr. Raj Narain received a phone call or not. That is the main thing.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): Let us not go into that. Since he has given an explanation, so I hope

(*Interruptions*) Mr. Malaviya and Mr. Janardhana Reddy, personal explanation has been made. I do not want to go into further discussion on this.

AN HON. MEMBER: Did he put undue pressure?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): No further debate on the personal explanation. Mr. Maqsood Ali Khan to proceed.

SHRI MAQSOOD ALI KHAN (Karnataka): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I think...

SHRI JANARDHANA REDDY: Sir, I am on a point of order. You are here to control the House. I cannot understand Mr. Raj Narain every time asking us to sit down. Who is he? He has no business to say so.

SHRI RAJNARAIN: I did not.. .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): I am here to control the House as long as I am the Vice-Chairman here. I request you. . .

SHRI JANARDHANA REDDY: Every time he comes to the House, he is saying...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA): I request you to sit down, Mr. Reddy. Mr. Maqsood Ali Khan.

THE FINANCE (NO. 2) BILL, 1977— *Contd.*

SHRI MAQSOOD ALI KHAN (Karnataka) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I want to make certain observations on the Finance Bill which is before this House.

When we take into consideration the Finance Bill, we have to take into consideration the circumstances, especially the economic circumstances, of the country. Sir, for the last 29 years, the budgets that were produced, the budgets that were prepared and presented to this House were prepared and presented by the Congress Government. This is the first budget which has been presented by the Janata Party. So one necessarily wants to know what the deviations are from the oft-repeated practice.

Sir, certain observations were made by the Finance Minister which were of a welcome nature. For example, when he said that he was going to simplify all the laws relating to the income-tax and central taxes and excise duties so that the assessee should not suffer at the hands of the officers, it was a welcome move. And we welcomed his observation that he was going to have a commission appointed on indirect taxation so as to reduce the burden of indirect taxes on the common man. But, Sir, coming to the raising of resources, I think he felt himself in a tight jacket because whatever resources we can raise in the country have been explored during the last 29 years, or even earlier than that, and I think the channels are quite set. And it was very much difficult for the Finance Minister to find out any other ways by which he could have raised certain more resources to meet his budgetary obligations. But, Sir, at the time we discuss the Finance Bill, we usually look at the pronounced tricks that are found in the Finance Bill compared to those which were adopted by the previous Government. So, by presenting the Budget, the Minister thought that he took us by surprise by reducing the deficit to just about Rs. 72 crores or so. As they say and so many economists have said, I think he could have performed a triple feat by drawing upon the foreign reserves. He could have taken just one thousand crores from the foreign reserves and presented to this country a balanced Budget without any new taxation whatsoever.