

RESOLUTION RE COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING TO YOUNG STUDENTS

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी चंडावत (राजस्थान):
उप-सभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित संकल्प
उपस्थित करती हूँ कि—

“इस सभा की यह सम्मति है कि सरकार को
18 से 25 वर्ष की आयु वाले प्रत्येक छात्र
को एक वर्ष का अनिवार्य सैनिक प्रशिक्षण
देने के लिए आवश्यक कदम उठाने चाहिए
और इस शर्त को पूरा किये बिना इस आयु-
समूह के किसी भी नागरिक को किसी भी
भारतीय विश्वविद्यालय या अन्य शिक्षा
संस्थान द्वारा कोई डिग्री या डिप्लोमा नहीं
प्रदान किया जाना चाहिए।”

उप-सभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इसमें कोई दो रायें
नहीं कि हमारा देश शान्तिप्रिय देश है। हमारी
नीति हमेशा से, सदा से शान्ति के पक्ष में रही
है। हमारी मंशा कत्तई किसी दूसरे मुल्क के
ऊपर आक्रमण करने की नहीं है। हमारी
हमेशा यह नीति रही है कि जो कुछ भी हमारे
झगड़े हों, चाहे हमारे सीमा के विवाद हों, चाहे
राजनीतिक विवाद हों हम उनको शान्तिपूर्ण
तरीकेसे हल करें। हमारा विश्वास सह-अस्तित्व
में पूर्ण रूप से है। हम जितने भी फौजी गुट हैं
दुनिया के उन सारे फौजी गुटों से अलग हैं।
हम दूसरे देश की प्रभुसत्ता की कद्र करते हैं।
हम चाहते हैं कि हमारे देश की प्रभुसत्ता हम
कायम रखें, सम्मान के साथ कायम रखें। लेकिन
उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, फिर भी हमें अपने आपको
किसी भी संकट के समय के लिए तैयार रखना
निहायत जरूरी है। उसके लिए हमें ऐसी
तैयारी रखनी चाहिए कि यदि हमारे न चाहते
हुए भी कोई दूसरा मुल्क हमारे ऊपर संकट
डाल दे तो हम अपने देश की रक्षा में, अपने देश
की सुरक्षा में उसका मुकाबला कर सकें।
इसी बात को ध्यान में रखते हुए आज मैंने यह
संकल्प सदन के सामने उपस्थित किया है।

अपने डिफेंस के लिए, अपने सुरक्षा के लिए
हमें सुरक्षा की अपनी सैकंड लाइन, दूसरी

पंक्ति अनिवार्य रूपसे ही कायम करनी चाहिये।
हमारा इतना बड़ा मुल्क है, इतना बड़ा देश है
जिस की सीमाएं कई दूसरे देशों के साथ लगी
हुई हैं। दुर्भाग्य से हमारी सीमाएं ऐसे मुल्कोंसे
लगी हुई हैं जिन का रवैया हमारे साथ दोस्ताना
नहीं रहा, जो हमारे साथ मित्रों की तरह बर्ताव
नहीं करते हैं। आज से कुछ साल पहले जिस
समुद्र को, जिसे हिमालय को हम अपना रक्षक
मानते थे, आज वह स्थिति नहीं रही।
किसी वक्त हम हिमालय को अपना प्रहरी
मानते थे, आज उसी हिमालय में हमारी फौजों
को कई हजार फुट की उंचाई पर रहना
पड़ रहा है। इसी तरह से जिस समुद्र के तट
को, जिस हिन्द महासागर को हम एक रक्षा
की चीज मानते थे, आज वह हिन्द महासागर
अशांत हो रहा है, उसको अशांत किये जाने की
कोशिश की जा रही है। इस लिये सुरक्षा के लिए
हमें अपनी दूसरी रक्षा पंक्ति कायम करना
बहुत जरूरी है। आज हमारे पास स्टैंडिंग
सेना के अलावा दूसरी इस प्रकार की कोई भी
रक्षा पंक्ति नहीं है। यदि कुछ कहा जाय तो
छोटा मोटा प्रयास केवल एन० सी० सी० के
द्वारा किया गया है, लेकिन एन० सी० सी० का
जो एक प्रयास किया गया है, उसको हम सैकंड
लाइन आफ डिफेंस नहीं मान सकते। उसको
ऐसा इस लिए नहीं मान सकते क्योंकि पहली बात
यह है कि एन० सी० सी० का प्रशिक्षण बहुत
कम तादाद में युवकों को दिया जाता है।
दूसरे उसके लिए फंड इतना कम है कि जो
ट्रेनिंग एन० सी० सी० वालों को दी जानी
चाहिये वह नहीं दी जा रही है। इसके अलावा
जो उनके पास साधन हैं वे बहुत ही सीमित
हैं। इस लिए एन० सी० सी० के द्वारा जो हम
सैकंड लाइन आफ डिफेंस कायम करने की बात
सोचते हैं, वह गलत है। हम एन० सी० सी०
के द्वारा सैकंड लाइन आफ डिफेंस कायम नहीं
कर सकते। हमारे देश में जो युद्ध विद्या के
विशारद हैं, जो सुरक्षा के मामले को समझते
हैं उन विशेषज्ञों की भी यह राय है कि इस तरह
की एक ट्रेनिंग हमारे नौजवानों को दी जानी
चाहिये। जनरल कैडेट की इस सम्बन्ध में

[श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी चूडावत]

राय मे सदन के सामने रखना चाहती हूं। हमारे वेस्टर्न कमांड के जी० ओ० सी०, जिन्होंने गोवा के युद्ध के समय हमारी सेनाओं का संचालन किया था, उन जनरल कैड्रेथ ने स्पष्ट शब्दों में यह कहा है :

“Compulsory military training for youth should be given to streamline the security requirements of the country.”

सैनिक विशेषज्ञों ने ही नहीं, जो हमारे देश के विचारक हैं, जो देश की स्थिति को समझते हैं, उनकी भी यही राय है कि हमारे युवकों को इस प्रकार कम प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त होना चाहिये जो देश की सुरक्षा में काम आ सके इस बारे में मैं सदन का ध्यान दिलाती हूं तमिलनाडू के गवर्नर, श्री शाहू के द्वारा कहे हुये शब्दों की ओर। उन्होंने यह कहा है :

“People should be induced to undergo training in handling of firearms and particularly rifles.”

हमारे नौजवानों को अस्त्र शस्त्र का ज्ञान होना चाहिये और कम से कम राइफल हैंडिल करने का ज्ञान अवश्य होना चाहिये।

और उन्होंने साथ में यह भी कहा था कि हमारे आज के लोग या आज की आम जनता इस तरफ रुचि नहीं ले रही है। यह एक दुर्भाग्य का विषय है। उनकी स्थिति है कि :

“It was unfortunate that as against the target of 2 million people trainees per year, the response from public has been negligible.”

यानी जो कुछ ट्रेनिंग राइफल वगैरह की दी जाती है उस में हमारे नौजवान किन्हीं कारणों से जितना उनको भाग लेना चाहिए वह नहीं ले रहे हैं और वे ऐसी ट्रेनिंग में भाग नहीं ले सके हैं। इस लिए इस बात को ध्यान में रखते हुए यह संकल्प मैंने प्रस्तुत किया है ताकि इस प्रकार की शिक्षा यहां के कालेजों में दी जा सके और इस के तहत हमारे युवकों को अनिवार्य प्रशिक्षण दिया जा सके। यदि ऐसा हो सके तो जो हमारी इच्छा है वह पूरी हो सकेगी। उपसभाध्यक्ष

महोदय, अगर इस प्रकार की ट्रेनिंग हम स्कूलों और कालेजों में दे सके कि जो युवक 18 और 25 साल के बीच की उमर के हैं वे एक साल तक सैनिक शिक्षा ग्रहण करें तो उस से हमारी सुरक्षा का सवाल तो हल होगा ही, लेकिन उस के अलावा हमारे नवयुवकों को और हमारे मुल्क के समाज को और अन्य कई वर्गों को उस से एक नहीं अनेक प्रकार के लाभ होंगे। उन के लाभ एक दृष्टि से नहीं, कई दृष्टियों से गिने जा सकते हैं। सब से पहले तो इस प्रकार की ट्रेनिंग लेने से हमारे नवयुवकों में चरित्र का निर्माण होगा। सैनिक शिक्षा जिस ढंग से दी जाती है उस में चरित्र का निर्माण होता है। उस के कारण एक नवयुवक में कर्टसी आती है, कांफीडेंस आता है और उस में आगे बढ़ने की स्पिरिट पैदा होती है। इस शिक्षा के द्वारा हम अपने युवकों में वह स्पिरिट ला सकेंगे। हमारे उस से उन के स्वास्थ्य में भी परिवर्तन होगा। जिस प्रकार से सैनिक शिक्षा होती है उस से उन में स्वास्थ्य का निर्माण होता है। इसी तरह से उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, उस से हमारे युवकों में डिसिप्लिन आयेगी, उन में अनुशासन की भावना आयेगी जिस की आज बहुत सख्त जरूरत है। आज हम देख रहे हैं कि हमारे युवक कई क्षेत्रों में बहुत उच्छृंखल होते चले जा रहे हैं। उनको अपना भविष्य उज्ज्वल नजर नहीं आता है। कितनी ही ऐसी एक्टिविटीज में वे भाग लेते हैं कि जिन में तोड़ फोड़ चलती रहती है और उन से देश का निर्माण नहीं होता। तो इस शिक्षा से उन में अनुशासन आयेगा। इस ट्रेनिंग से उन में डिसिप्लिन आयेगी और फौजी ट्रेनिंग से अनुशासन आता है इस में कोई दो राय नहीं है। अभी एन० सी० सी० की वैलुएशन कमेटी में बैठने का मुझे मौका मिला मैंने वहां कुछ नौजवानों से बात की जो कि एन० सी० सी० में रहे हैं। मैंने उन से पूछा कि कई बार कहीं सिनेमा घर तोड़ा जाता है, कहीं दुकान तोड़ दी जाती है, जला दी जाती है, उन सब में आप का क्या एटीट्यूड रहता है? तो उन जवानों ने बताया कि जो कुछ समाज में

हो रहा है उस का असर हम पर भी पड़ता है, लेकिन जब हमारी नजर इस आर्मी की बर्दी पर पड़ती है तो हमारे पांव अपने आप उठते हैं। हम अगर आर्मी की बर्दी नहीं पहने होते हैं, तो भी एन० सी० सी० की ट्रेनिंग लेने के कारण हम में एक रेस्पॉन्सिबिलिटी की भावना पैदा होती है और जाने या अनजाने ही हमारे दिमाग में एक अनुशासन की भावना आ जाती है। इसलिए मेरा निवेदन है कि इस प्रकार की सैनिक शिक्षा देने से जो हमारे नौजवानों में सबसे बड़ी कमी है अनुशासन की, सलीके की और एक व्यवस्थित ढंग से, सही तरीके से काम न करने की वह दूर होगी और हमारे नवयुवकों का चरित्र निर्माण होगा।

दूसरे, मैं निवेदन करना चाहूंगी कि युद्ध के समय जो स्थिति होती है उस के बारे में हमारे आम आदमी को, हमारी जनता को, हमारी आम जनता को और हमारे सुशिक्षित व्यक्ति को भी उस के बारे में ज्ञान बहुत कम होता है। सेना के बारे में ज्ञान की कमी हमारे देश में जरूरत से ज्यादा है। मुझे ताज्जुब होता है कि हमारे अच्छे से अच्छे पढ़े-लिखे लोग छोटी-छोटी पोस्टों पर बैठे हुए हैं। उनको हमारी सेना के रैंक स्ट्रक्चर तक का पता नहीं है। आप देखते हैं कि कभी-कभी इसके नतीजे बहुत बुरे हो जाते हैं। पिछली बार हमें दूसरे मुल्कों के साथ कॉन्फ्लिक्ट में पड़ा कि किस तरह से लोग इस मुल्क के ऊपर भ्रांतियां फैलाते हैं, अफवाहें उड़ाते हैं, किस कारण से हम मजबूत होते हुए भी हमारी सेना को पीछे पाव रखने पड़े और कितनी दफा जानबूझ कर इस तरह के चक्कर हमारे सामने आए। मैं बताना चाहती हूँ कि इन बातों का ज्ञान न होने से आम लोगों में भ्रांतियां पैदा हो जाती हैं और इससे कभी-कभी मुल्क को बड़ा नुकसान हो जाता है। यदि हमारे युवक इस तरह की सैनिक शिक्षा लेंगे तो उसे इस ज्ञान से प्रतीत होगा कि कभी भी आड़े वक्त हमारा देश इस तरह की भ्रांतियों में, इस तरह की

अफवाहों में नहीं आ सकता। आज का जो युद्ध होता है वह केवल सेना का नहीं होता है, आज का युद्ध जनता के कट्टीब्यूशन का, जनता के कॉन्फिडेंस का, जनता के सहयोग का है और इसी के ऊपर मुल्क की सुरक्षा निर्भर रहती है। इस प्रकार का ज्ञान होने की वजह से हमारे देश को जनता की राय बनाने में, असली स्थिति को समझने में बहुत बड़ी सहायता मिलेगी।

एक समस्या आपके सामने रखना चाहूंगी कि आज हमारी सेना में दुर्भाग्य से राइट टाइप के आफिसरों का मिलना कम हो रहा है, मुश्किल हो रहा है। इसके कई कारण हैं जो मैं सदन के सामने रखना चाहूंगी। उसमें एक कारण यह है कि इधर जब सेना में आर्मी अफसरों की भर्ती की जाती है तो उनका बहुत सख्त सिलेक्शन होता है क्योंकि उनकी जिन्दगी कठिनाइयों से भरी होती है, बड़ी मेहनत करनी होती है फिर भी उनके लिए मोनेटरी व्यवस्था नहीं होती है, अच्छा वेतन, दूसरी अच्छी साधन-सुविधाएं उनको मिलती नहीं हैं। इसका नतीजा यह हो रहा है कि राइट टाइप के व्यक्ति जो आर्मी में जाना चाहते हैं वह जा नहीं पाते हैं, इसी लिए आज हमारी सेना में अच्छे-अच्छे आफिसरों की कमी है। आज अफसरों से मेरा मतलब यह है कि अच्छे अफसरों की कमी हमारी सेना में व्याप्त है। जितने अफसर हमें मिलने चाहिए वह हमारी सेना को मिल नहीं रहे हैं। यदि हम इस प्रकार की ट्रेनिंग दे सकेंगे, युवकों में इस प्रकार की रुचि पैदा कर सकेंगे तो जैसा अच्छा स्टाफ सेना का होता है वह हमको मिल सकेगा। आज एन० सी० सी० के होने की वजह से भी हमें मदद मिलती है। आज एन० सी० सी० चाहे कौसी भी स्थिति में हो, लेकिन वह भी अच्छे अफसरों का रिक्त्यूटमेन्ट हमारी डिफेंस को देता है। इसलिए, उपसभापति महोदय, यह आवश्यक हो जाता है कि इस तरह की ट्रेनिंग हम अपने अफसरों को दें।

[श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी चूडावत]

देश के फाइनस की हालत देखते हुए अगर हम इस प्रकार की शिक्षा की व्यवस्था कर देते हैं तो हमारे बजट के ऊपर भी इसका फायदा होगा। ऐसा करने से हमारे पास रिजर्व लोग कायम रहेंगे जो कि संकट के वक्त में आगे आएंगे और इस मौके पर हम अपने जरूरत को पूरा कर सकेंगे। इसका एक फायदा यह भी होगा; कि हमें बजट में वृद्धि नहीं करने पड़ेगी क्योंकि सेना के लोग हमारे पास मौजूद रहेंगे।

इसी तरह से आज अगर हम दूसरी नजर से भी देखें तो आज हमारे देश को चारो तरफ से धमकियां दी जा रही हैं। हम वह भूलें नहीं जो दो साल पहले हमें एक निर्णयात्मक युद्ध करना पड़ा था। हमारी इस आजादी के बाद थोड़े से अर्से में हमें चार-चार लड़ाइयां करनी पड़ीं। आज भी जब हम इधर-उधर नजर डालते हैं तो वाकई में हमें शंका होती है। हम देखते हैं कि अमरीका और चीन पाकिस्तान को हथियार देते जा रहे हैं और फ्रांस पाकिस्तान में फैक्टरियां कायम कर रहा है। आज चाहे अमरीका वाले जो कहें, लेकिन वह उनकी सुरक्षा के लिए हथियार दे रहा है। यह हम दो-तीन बार देख चुके हैं कि अमरीका से जो सुरक्षा के नाम पर पाकिस्तान को हथियार दिए गए उनका उपयोग कहां हुआ। उसके हम भुक्तभोगी हैं। उन तकलीफों को हम बर्दाश्त कर चुके हैं।

इधर हम नजर दौड़ाते हैं तो दूसरे हमारे पड़ोसी देश है—ईरान को ही ले लीजिए—ईरान में आज सैनिक शक्ति बढ़ाने की होड़ लगी हुई है। आज न जाने कितना अनाप-शनाप रुपया खर्च करके, करोड़ों डॉलर्स का एक-एक वायुयान लेकर, अरबों की कीमत देकर ईरान अपनी सैन्य शक्ति को बढ़ाता जा रहा और हमारे दिल में वाकई में संशय होता है। इधर हिन्द महासागर, जैसा मैं पहले कह चुकी हूँ एक शांति का जोन था, देश की एक बार्डर लाइन थी, हमारी रक्षात्मक लाइन

थी, वहां आज अशांत क्षेत्र हो गया है; क्योंकि आज डिगो गार्सिया में ब्रिटेन और अमरीका ने मिल कर एक बड़ा आणविक अडा कायम कर दिया है या करने जा रहे हैं। क्या यह हमारे लिए गम्भीर चिंता का विषय नहीं है? बहुत ज्यादा गम्भीर चिंता का विषय है। जब हम नक्शा खोल कर सामने देखते हैं, तो जो समुद्र के बीच में एक स्ट्रेटेजिक पाइन्ट पर डिगो गार्सिया का द्वीप है, उस पर दृष्टि-पात करने से एकदम हमारे दिमाग में कई तरह के खयालात आते हैं, हमें गुस्सा आता है, हममें कई तरह की चिंताएं पैदा होती हैं कि डिगो गार्सिया बिल्कुल ऐसी पोजिशन में है, जहां कि ब्रिटेन और अमरीका अपना अडा कायम कर रहे हैं, जो कि हमारे देश से बाम्बिंग रेन्ज है और बाम्बिंग रेन्ज में ही नहीं बल्कि वहां से हमारी राजधानी के ऊपर बैठे-बैठे बटन दबा कर हमला कर सकते हैं। तो वह ऐसे स्ट्रेटेजिक पाइन्ट पर इस तरह बैठे हुए हैं कि किसी भी वक्त अनायास हमारे ऊपर हमला हो सकता है। तो यह हमारी प्रभु-सत्ता के ऊपर, हमारी इज्जत के ऊपर और हमारे सारे देश के ऊपर एक ऐसा खतरा है जिसे बर्दाश्त भी नहीं किया जा सकता। इसलिए ऐसे खतरों के लिए हमें अपने मुल्क को तैयार करना है और इसी के लिए मैंने यह प्रस्ताव आपके सामने रखा है।

यह जो प्रस्ताव उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं रख रही हूँ, कोई नया नहीं है। कई मुल्कों में इस तरह से उन्होंने अपनी रिजर्व सेनाएं कायम कर रखी हैं—यूरोप में है, यूरोप में ही नहीं, एशिया के मुल्कों में भी हैं, छोटे-छोटे मुल्कों में भी हैं। साउथ कोरिया जैसे एक छोटे मुल्क ने भी इस तरह की अपने यहां ट्रेनिंग कायम कर रखी है कि हर एक जवान लड़के को, 21 साल की उम्र के आस-पास ही, 3 साल तक की मिलिटरी कैम्प में जाकर ट्रेनिंग लेनी होती है। इसी तरह से आप ध्यान दीजिए नाथ कोरिया की ओर। उन्होंने भी अपने यहां इसी तरह की, बल्कि इससे ज्यादा अच्छी पद्धति अपने नौजवानों

के लिए कर रखी है। नार्थ कोरिया में यह आवश्यक है कि केवल लड़के को ही नहीं, हर एक लड़की को भी मिलिटरी ट्रेनिंग अनिवार्य रूप से लेनी होती है अपने मुल्क की हिफाजत के लिए, तभी आज वह मुल्क ऐसे दुश्मनों से, जो कि हाइली इन्स्ट्रलाइज्ड है, और जिनसे वे घिरे हुए हैं, लोहा ले रहे हैं। इसी तरह से वियतनाम में भी कम्युनिस्टी ट्रेनिंग होती है, जिससे वे स्किल एण्ड विल देते हैं और अमरीका जैसे मुल्क को परत करके दिखा दिया है। तो छोटे-छोटे मुल्क इस तरह से कर रहे हैं।

यू० एस० एस० आर० में भी स्टैंडिंग आर्मी गिनती में बहुत कम है, लेकिन सारे मुल्क के जवान अपने आप में सैनिक हैं, जिन्होंने हिटलरशाही के नाक के चने चबा दिए। तो संकट के समय में जिससे मुल्क अपनी रक्षा कर सके, चाहे कोई कैपिटलिस्ट कंट्री हो, चाहे सोशलिस्ट कंट्री हो, उसको अपनी हिफाजत के लिए इस प्रकार की ट्रेनिंग की व्यवस्था अपने नौजवानों में उत्साह देने के लिए, उनमें ज्ञान देने के लिए, उनमें अनुशासन पैदा करने के लिए, उनका चरित्र-निर्माण करने के लिए बहुत आवश्यक हो गई है।

तो उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने बड़े अदब के साथ ये कुछ शब्द हाउस के सामने रखे और सदस्यों ने ध्यान से जो मेरी बातों को सुना उसके लिए मैं उनकी कृतज्ञ हूँ और मेरा विचार है, मंत्री महोदय भो बैठे हैं, वे ऐसी किसी स्कीम के ऊपर ध्यान देंगे जो हमारी रीढ़ की हड्डी, हमारे युवकों को ठोस और मजबूत बना सके, उनके अंदर मुल्क के लिए एक स्पिरिट पैदा कर सके, उनमें चरित्र निर्माण कर सके, उनमें सैक्रिफाइस, बलिदान की भावना और आत्मोत्सर्ग करने की क्षमता पैदा कर सके, जिससे वे इस देश की कायापलट कर सकें।

The question was proposed

SHRI G. R. PATIL (Maharashtra): Mr. Vice-Chairman, I support the Resolution which stands in the name of Shri Sawaisingh Sisodia and which was

moved on his behalf by Shrimati Lakshmi Kumari Chundawat. In fact it is high time that our Government has taken immediate steps to see that compulsory military training for one year at least to every student between the age of 18 to 25 years is given and that no citizen of this age-group is awarded a degree or a diploma from any of the Indian Universities or other educational institutions without fulfilling this condition.

If we look round our neighbouring countries and also the developed countries in the world, it will be seen that the younger generation is by and large given this compulsory military training. As far as the developed countries like the United States, Russia, England and other countries are concerned, we find that the youth, particularly the youth in the age group of 18 to 25 years has to undergo compulsory military training. As far as our country is concerned, it is true that we are wedded to non-violence and non-alignment. But that does not mean that our youth should not be given compulsory military training. In fact, after the independence of this country it would be seen that we were attacked by China and Pakistan in 1962, 1965 and then again in 1971. On those occasions, we found that though there was unity throughout the length and breadth of the country and we were prepared to sacrifice everything for the cause of the freedom and independence of the country, still one thing was lacking. Whenever such calamities or crises took place, there was fear in the minds, particularly, of our younger generation, because they were not familiar with warfare. In modern warfare, we do not know which country will attack us or when and how we will be attacked. In 1962 our jawans tried their level best to see that the attack made on us by China was frustrated. But in fact as they were not accustomed to mountain warfare, it was very difficult for them to fight against the Chinese on the Himalayan hills. But in spite of that, they kept up their morals and withstood the attack. In 1965 when we were attacked by Pakistan, the propaganda made against India by so many countries and particularly

[Shri G. R. Patil]

by the United States and United Kingdom was that the Indian jawan was not a match to the Pakistani soldier. But in 1971 when the Bangla Desh affair took place and before that also, we proved that our jawans were capable of not only defending our country, but also defeating the army of our neighbouring country. That boosted the morale of our army. Now round about our neighbouring countries, what do we see? We see that China is helping Pakistan with arms aid. We also see that the United States and even France are giving them armaments and other equipment. The late President Mr. Eisenhower assured our then Prime Minister that whatever arms they were given to Pakistan, would never be used against India. But, ultimately, it so happened that these very arms were used against India and the same thing is likely to be repeated. It is because Pakistan has been defeated that the Pakistanis might be thinking of avenging their defeat. Therefore, I feel that a second line of defence for this country is necessary and it has to be maintained. One cannot say on what day or in what year we would be attacked. Even recently our beloved Prime Minister has said that certain neighbouring countries are also preparing for a war against India and that we should be prepared for it. I hope the Prime Minister's words will not fall on deaf ears. I am quite sure that keeping in view this clarion call by the Prime Minister, the Government also would come forward and do something as far as preparation of the younger generation is concerned for facing whatever calamities might befall this country and to defend the sovereignty and independence of this country. It is therefore, necessary that compulsory military training has to be given to the students in the age group of 18 — 25. As has been pointed out by Shrimati Chundawat, if our country goes in for military training, compulsory military training, it is not that we are going to attack another country. But even for the defence of a country, its younger generation has to be prepared and it is no use saying that as soon as war breaks out, we can think of doing all these things. Compulsory military

training will go a long way in bringing about disciplined citizenship. Now, we are seeing what is happening in Gujarat. Though some honourable Members said in this House this morning that what is happening in Gujarat is a revolution, as far as Gujarat is concerned, I think that the way in which violence is taking place, the way in which property is being looted and in the way it is set ablaze, indicate that destructive tendencies enter the minds of the students and it is a very serious matter and should be thought over. Therefore, Sir, I think that if their minds are trained and if they are disciplined by means of compulsory military training, they will develop a sort of feeling that in case any calamity befalls the country or any aggression takes place, they would be able to defend their country and they would be prepared to sacrifice their lives and see that the independence and the sovereignty of the country are maintained. We may say that even today in colleges and universities the ACC and the NCC training is imparted and so, the students get an opportunity to have military training of a certain type. But I personally feel that even this training is only a voluntary training and it is not that every student has to undergo this training compulsorily. Therefore, most of the students do not want to join this ACC and NCC training. As has been laid down in certain States where, if a medical graduate is to be awarded a degree or diploma he has to serve in some rural areas for some time with a view to seeing that he serves the rural people we should also lay down something like this in respect of military training also. But, now a days most of the medical graduates come to the cities and they serve only there and on account of this, the public health institutions or the health centres which we have set up in the rural areas do not get the services of doctors. Therefore, I feel that the Government should do something in this case also. Whatever training is now given, the NCC and the ACC training, is not enough and so, I would appeal to the honourable Minister of the Education to take some lead and initiative in this matter and see that compulsory military

training is imparted to the students. Now, Sir, the trend amongst the students is to start agitations and demonstrations. But, if compulsory military training is given to the students, it will turn their minds away from these things and will make them disciplined. The future or would be citizens of this country or the tomorrow's citizens of this country would become very much disciplined and would understand the responsibilities they have to shoulder in future and the duties they have to perform. Therefore, compulsory military training is essential for students in the age of group of 18-25. It is very essential, Sir, that compulsory military training should be given to this particular age group. I would personally like to appeal to the hon. Minister that today the way in which the N.C.C. or A.C.C. are being implemented in high schools has to be looked into rather seriously, because I know that most of the parents and most of the students also do not like to undergo this rigorous training. And unless one undergoes rigorous training at a particular age, it is not possible for those who have crossed 30 or 35 to undergo military training when some calamity takes place. Then we are only bewildered. We ourselves do not know what sort of steps we have to take. One cannot shun the idea that in future our country will not be invaded, there shall be no aggression by any country as far as our country is concerned.

The mover of the Resolution, Mr. Sisodia, has said that every student should undergo this training—not each and every youth in this country. It is not that all the youths between the age group of 18-25 would be given compulsory military training; it is confined only to the students. And, therefore, students who have passed at least the NCC and who join any college will come under its purview. Therefore, I think it is a very good resolution, and I hope that the whole House will also support it. Unless and until they undergo this military training, diplomas should not be given because, as you know, Sir, diplomas are awarded as and when they appear for the examination, but after getting through the

examination diplomas are generally avoided. But if we make it a condition that unless a student undergoes military training he will not be given any diploma, then only they will have to undergo this military training. This is essential, taking into consideration the nuclear warfare or the hydrogen warfare that may take place tomorrow—nobody knows. There is China on the one hand and there is Pakistan on the other. Though we have got so many other friendly countries roundabout us, we see so many things happening round about also. Though we are trying our level best to see that the Indian Ocean is kept as a zone of peace, still in spite of that what is happening? The United Kingdom and the United States are coming together and having some military base or some air strip or something like that. See what is happening in Diego Garcia. One day, instead of being frightened we should be prepared mentally also. And for that mental preparation, the preparation of the youth of this country, particularly of students, is very necessary. I think that compulsory military training is a must.

Therefore, I would urge upon the hon. Minister to take immediate steps. When we are on the threshold of the Fifth Five Year Plan, at least this should be introduced in the Fifth Five Year Plan. Make it a compulsory thing.

I once again support whole-heartedly the Resolution moved by Shri Sisodia.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): Mrs. Kulkarni.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI (Gujarat): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, for a long time I have admired the discipline and the smartness of our Armed Forces. I have always wanted that our boys and the young men and women of this country should also emulate and have a chance of learning and acquiring this discipline and this smartness. In fact, it is difficult to believe that about 25-30 years ago I suggested, when I was a young college-going girl, to the Chief Minister of the then Bombay Province, what was the difficulty in making compulsory military

[Shrimati Sumitra G. Kulkarni.]

training in colleges. Of course, I was answered that this was very expensive, and may be in the context of 1948 it was not possible. But from those days I have cherished this desire in my heart that there should be an opportunity for every young man of this country to undergo discipline of this type and to undergo this training.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): Why not for every woman also?...

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON (Kerala): Imagine Mrs. Kulkarni coming with a rifle in her hands...

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI: I said, every young man and women. But to start with, we must start with men.

I would like to congratulate the hon. mover of this Resolution, Mr. Sisodia, for bringing such a Resolution. And I rise here to support this Resolution. I must say that Mr. Sisodia has very ably presented this Resolution, and so also my friend Mr. Gulab Rao Patil who has given very valid reasons why such training should be made compulsory. Of course, it is an excellent argument that it is the second line of defence. We in this country are in need of such help. But I would like to deal it in a little more subtle and deeper way. I do feel that the army people have this wrong notion in their minds that the army men need more brawns than brains. I have always felt that some kind of discipline and some kind of systematic living is essential in life. I was brought up in a non-violent military camp and there I was taught how to conduct ourselves in a group, what to do and how to carry out the orders. These are some of the virtues which are very essential for the making up of a good character. It is with some sadness in my heart that I observe that the youth of today is very often found wanting in these qualities. They are lounging here and there wasting their time. They do not know how to occupy their long hours. Naturally, they have to go in for one or the other minor vices. They have to kill time. They

have to go and see movies. It is because they have too much of time on their hands and they do not have enough avenues of channelising their energy. So, this is one way of utilising the youth of this country.

Another thing is that in an army camp or under a certain kind of discipline, the young men are made to live in a group. Group living is a very important thing. No matter how big the family at home might be, still the parents are not able to enforce that kind of discipline in which we have to sacrifice our own personal desires in the interest of the society in which we are living. In a developing country, we need this quality in a tremendous way. This quality can be developed and inculcated if our boys have an opportunity of living and growing up together under a certain regimented discipline.

Another advantage of military training is this. People always say that the State of Punjab is developing very well. Punjab is growing in all the aspects of life, whether it is agriculture, industry, or small scale industries. According to me, one of the reasons is that a number of people from Punjab are in the army. After their retirement, they come back and settle down on their farms. After their service with the army, they have the opportunity of coming back and practising the same discipline in their State also and this discipline and this systematic conduct brings quite a lot of success in their personal life. This is one reason why that region of India is progressing so well, better than the other parts of India. In their army camps, they have been taught how to eat, how to inculcate hygienic habits, to expect certain standards and to work for them, how to receive orders and how to execute orders properly and how to give orders later on. The quality of leadership is also brought out under such circumstances. Besides being the second line of defence, all these virtues are inculcated in our boys which we need very much in today's context. All over the country, our boys feel frustrated. Girls should also be included in this programme as soon as we can afford. One

way of looking at it is that it is the second-line of defence. I would say that it is a character building institution. I would like to say that this resolution has a great advantage in it and I would like to recommend it to our Education Minister for his consideration. Here, the Resolution talks about one year training between the age of 18 to 25 years, I believe. Our terrain is mostly to be guarded in the northern part, and it is a hilly area. Our troops are deployed for defence purposes on very high altitudes. When the troops are put through the training, they have to be trained in the desert, in the plain and on the coastal lines, and they have to be acclimatized to the mountains also. Now if this aspect of training has to be incorporated, I would think that one year may not be quite sufficient. It might be advantageous, when we go through this experiment, if we go in for 18 to 24 months' training instead of one year. This is just to make a real and a complete kind of training which will prepare our young boys and young ladies, as my hon. friend, Mr. Syed Hussain says, for this.

Sir, today the Army is recruiting on voluntary basis. As all of us know, in India, there is great unemployment. So, any kind of job or any avenue will always be flooded and there is never any dearth of applicants. That does not necessarily ensure that we get the right sort of persons and the right calibre. The military science has developed tremendously. It is a complicated science and requires high degree of mathematical aptitude as well as other technical skills. And I feel that as of today, according to the voluntary basis, the choice for the selection of the Army personnel is extremely limited. If we open it out to the compulsory training, it will cover a much wider range. Automatically, many young men and women who devote more interest in other lines will also be exposed to this and they will come for this training. And in the process it is quite likely that they may get interested in the Army and they may opt for Army career also. Today, many boys of

families of higher middle-class who are very well trained, shirk from going into the Army. But if it is made compulsory, automatically, that group and that section of society will also go there and they will themselves contribute towards the betterment of Army personnel and raising the standard of Army personnel. Army is not of some secondary consequence. It is a vital unit which has to be kept in its mettle continuously and it cannot be allowed to dwindle or reduce in its standards. That is why, the compulsory training may help us to get a wider range of boys. And there is no need to worry about the huge number of boys that will turn up. Of course, between the age group of 18 to 25 years, the population can be very large. But, Sir, there also a number of people will be left out on medical grounds; some of them will be left out on the grounds if I.Q. and aptitude tests and some others will be left out on important national considerations. And considering this, there may not be as large a figure or as large a number as may swamp us. And we need not worry that we may not be able to handle it administratively. I feel that it may be on the basis of their birth certificates, a system can be devised whereby between the age of 18 to 22 years, we can get in a phased out manner sufficient number of young men who can take up this 18 to 24 months' training. This is how there will not be any administrative difficulty also. Of course, there is this aspect of finances. It will cost us something more. But the amount of money that will be invested, the returns and the dividends that this country will be reaping, after giving this training to our young men in terms of character, in terms of discipline and in terms of leadership will be something fantastic. Today, we may not be able to believe what kind of change that it may bring about. But the present-day inactivity, the present-day sense of frustration and hopelessness and all those can be reduced to a great degree. If the young men have to be motivated to work for the country, this is the training ground where they may be motivated in the interest of the country as well as in their own interest. Sir,

[Shrimati Sumitra G. Kulkarni.]

to carry this point further, by voluntary service we will be automatically getting the best talent in the country. If we want to attract the best talent in the country and recruit them, we will have to offer fabulous salaries and it will become extremely expensive. But, in this process of voluntary recruitment, we do not have to give them any exceptional salaries or any extraordinary attraction because automatically we will be getting the brilliant brains available in the country.

Another point that I want to make is, in connection with their selection. The details of this selection can be worked out by the Ministry of Education. I would, however, like to add here that this matter should not be treated as something which has the support of just a few hon. Members of this House and may not carry as wide a support as other Government Resolution carry. This is something which affects the young men of our country and their character too. Therefore, I along with the two earlier speakers and this whole House, enjoin the hon. Education Minister with all the earnestness at our command to take up this thing extremely seriously and to incorporate it in the Fifth Five Year Plan. That is all. Thank you.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to my hon. friend Shri Sisodia for having drawn the attention of this hon'ble House to a very important problem concerning the country as well as the students. I have deeply appreciated the three speeches that have been delivered and I would like to state straightaway that I find myself broadly in sympathy with the sentiments that have been expressed.

The first point that has been made is with regard to defence. Naturally, there is no person in this House who would under-rate the importance of keeping the country prepared to defend

its borders and its way of life. But, I feel, Sir, that this matter should best be left to the specialists who are those who are in charge of our defence forces, who will determine the number of persons who will be given military training of a specified type. In modern warfare, Sir, defence not merely involves training in the Army — it is a total mobilisation of the resources of the country. Therefore, people have to be prepared to run farms, to run factories, to run research establishments, to run communication services and so on. It was not without reason that our late Prime Minister during the days of 1965 struggle gave the slogan of 'Jai Jawan and Jai Kisan', because the role of the *kisan* was just as important as the role of the *jawan*. Therefore, while I broadly agree that the country must have a second line of defence, I would submit, Sir, that the question the number and type of people who will be given different kinds of training should be left to those who are more knowledgeable than many of us.

Sir, the other aspect is also an extremely important one and it relates to the building up of character, of a sense of discipline and of a sense of dedication. In the only forum of military training that is imparted to our students, the National Cadet Corps, Sir, I would like to say that its results have been extremely encouraging on the whole. It is a tribute to our young people as well as to our officers of the N.C.C., both the professional officers on loan from the Armed Services as well as the University and College Teachers who took up the responsibility of leading the N.C.C. cadets, with the result that these young people, boys and girls, have been able to impress everyone with their sense of discipline and with their sense of dedication. Sir, I had the privilege of visiting the NCC camp which was held recently in Delhi in connection with the Republic Day Celebrations, and I was most impressed with the performance of the young people assembled there and above everything else their commitment to the cause of national integration. Here it was such a delight to see people from all

parts of the country, young people living with each other, respecting each other and considering themselves Indians above everybody else and, therefore, Sir, this particular aspect of training and the implication for character building is certainly something which will be acknowledged by the whole country and we in the Government are second to none in acknowledging it but, Sir, there are a few problems to which I would be failing in my duty if I did not draw your attention. The House will recall that after the 1962 attack on our country, it was decided to make NCC as compulsory for all students, at least for one year. Now this is not a whole-time training, it is only a part-time training but even this was considered as absolutely essential. Unfortunately, Sir, not enough resources could be provided, not enough motivation could be provided with the result that the quality of performance of the corps went down and in 1967 the inter-University Board decided that it would not be proper to keep NCC compulsory any longer. Therefore, the Government decided that it should be left to the university concerned to decide whether NCC will remain compulsory or would remain optional. The present strength of the NCC in the senior division in 1973—the figures are for 1973 is 5,85,980 and for junior division it is 6,62,533. Only one institution has made the training in NCC compulsory and that is the Agricultural Science University in Bangalore. In every other institution it is optional. Sir, sometime back the Government in the Ministry of Defence appointed a Committee under a distinguished educationist, Dr. Mahajani, to go into the functioning of the NCC and make recommendations regarding improvement in its functioning. Now, Sir, that Committee's report is being printed. I understand, and would be available fairly soon, and it is under consideration of the government. That Committee has recommended that the strength of the NCC should be brought down to four lakhs because it was felt that efficient and worthwhile services cannot be provided for this particular corps. Sir, if you take into account the fact that there are approximately 3.2 million young people in

this particular age group in institutions of higher learning, you will see the magnitude of the problem and the difficulty of providing even part-time military service to them, leave alone making the whole-time military service compulsory. It was with this idea in view that a decision was taken that students be encouraged to take as an alternative to NCC to join the National Student Service Corps and the National Students Service scheme has made some progress during the Fourth Plan period. We are now trying to make the National Students Service scheme even more effective and to link it to the courses of study wherever possible and feasible so as to encourage the students to develop a commitment to society and to social service.

4 P.M.

Sir, some of the schemes which were brought have proved, on the whole, fairly encouraging and the results have been encouraging and we are now thinking of adopting measures to improve. But, Sir, the Association of Indian Universities which is the new name of the Inter University Board of India which recently met at Kharagpur, came to the conclusion that we are not in a position to make even NSS compulsory for all students. They have, therefore, suggested that this should remain optional. I also consulted the Chairman of the University Grants Commission and he has advised the Government that it would not be proper to make military service compulsory for all students in the present state of the country. What we are considering—and it is not a decision because we have to consult others; the matter is still under consideration—is to organize a National Students Service Volunteer Corps which will take student volunteers, give them a stipend and put them through one year of service after a brief training and these could be utilised for primary education, for literacy programmes for non formal education, for health schemes, social welfare, etc. This scheme is being worked out and as soon as all details are ready, I shall take the liberty of placing the proposals before this honourable House.

[Prof. S. Nurul Hasan.]

Therefore, Sir, considering the limitations of our resources and the difficulties before us, we are trying to do our best in this regard. The Mahajani Committee Report is before the Government of India, in the Ministry of Defence. The scheme of strengthening the National Students Service and for establishing a National Students Volunteer Corps is also under the consideration of the Government of India, in the Ministry of Education. We hope that some worthwhile results would come out of these proposals and in the light of this, Sir, I have the honour to request my honourable friend Shrimati Lakshmi Kumari to withdraw this Resolution.

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी चुंडावत : उप-सभाध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो कुछ कहा वह बड़ा कन्विंसिंग है और प्लान के बारे में जो कुछ उन्होंने बतलाया कि इस सम्बन्ध में क्या होने जा रहा है, उसके लिए मैं उनका शुक्रिया अदा करना चाहती हूँ।

मंत्री महोदय ने एन० सी० सी० और महाजनी जी के सभापतित्व में जो कमेटी बनाई गई थी तथा उसने जो रिपोर्ट दी, उसका भी उन्होंने जिक्र किया। उन्होंने एन० सी० सी० के रिपोर्ट का भी जिक्र किया और चूँकि मैं इसकी एक सदस्या थी, इसलिए मैं इस सम्बन्ध में ज्यादा नहीं कहना चाहती हूँ। लेकिन मैं इतना निवेदन करना चाहती हूँ कि आपने इतनी बातें जो डिटेल् में बतलाई रिपोर्ट के बारे में जिक्र किया, वहाँ मैं आप से यह निवेदन करना चाहती हूँ कि लड़कियों की संख्या एन० सी० सी० में ज्यादा होनी चाहिये और उन्हें परा जम्पिंग की ट्रेनिंग दी जानी चाहिये।

मैं माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान इस बात की ओर दिलाना चाहती हूँ कि जो महाजनी कमिशन की रिपोर्ट है, उसको अवश्य कार्यान्वित किया जाना चाहिये और लड़कियों के सम्बन्ध में ज्यादा अच्छी व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिये। मैं इस प्रस्ताव को इस विश्वास के

साथ वापस ले रही हूँ कि आप इस मामले पर पूरी तरह से ध्यान दे रहे हैं और जो भी उचित कार्यवाही है, वह कर रहे हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): As the hon. Member asks for permission of the House to withdraw...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : (West Bengal): I hope such Resolutions will never be brought again. If the hon. Member gives an assurance that such misconceived Resolutions shall not be brought again, I would be in favour of the permission; otherwise I will have it rejected by the House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): Are you objecting?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I have suggested to the mover of this Resolution that in future she should not bring such misconceived Resolutions as this. If you give an assurance I will be in favour of permission being granted to you because this is a fantastic Resolution; or alternatively I would like it to be rejected by the House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): The hon. Member has no authorisation for that. She had an authorisation only to move it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: That is not the point. As one who has moved the Resolution she can say that. Let her give an assurance that she will not bring such Resolutions any more. I am surprised, Sir, in a country like ours with such large manpower available we should think of imparting compulsory military training to all the students. What is this? Are we at war with the whole world?

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी चुंडावत : मैं आपका मतलब अच्छी तरह समझी नहीं। आप कैसे कहते हैं कि वह मिसकन्सीव्ड है।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I had not intentionally spoken; otherwise I would have told you how it is misconceived. Anyway, in deference to the

Lady Member—she has sponsored a Resolution which is not hers and it is a fantastic and ridiculous Resolution—anyway, let it be withdrawn.

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

RESOLUTION RE STEPS TO CHECK PRICE RISE AND ENSURE EASY AVAILABILITY OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (West Bengal): Sir, I move the following Resolution:—

“Having regard to the fact that the prices of food-stuffs and other essential commodities of daily consumption have reached such a point that common man is finding it difficult to procure even the minimum level of his requirements, this House is of opinion that Government should take immediate and concrete steps to see that further sharp hike in the prices of these essential items is checked forthwith and these are easily made available.”

Now, Sir, the importance of this Resolution is being grimly underlined by what is happening in Gujarat, what has happened in each State, what has happened in Maharashtra and Nagpur, what has happened in Karnataka and Bangalore and what is happening in State after State throughout India. How did we come to such a position? That is the first question and the next thing is what steps, if any, the Government will take to counteract the price rise and bring these commodities within easy reach.

First I would like to refer to foodgrains. There is a proverb that man does not live by bread alone. Quite true but without bread he would not live, he would not survive. Now it is the 26th year after independence and three or four years back the Food and Agriculture Ministry was trumpeting and declaring from the housetops that there is a green revolution, that India is self-sufficient in food and that India is

going to export foodgrains. That is what they were declaring. It is not because of their action, not because of their ghost-like green revolution. It is because for three successive years we had a good monsoon. Now, let us examine the entire policy of the Government with regard to this in broad outline, not the entire policy if I may say so. It would have been in the class interests of the bourgeois to smash this feudal structure once for all to clear the path for an abundant food production, to remove the fetters of production and put agriculture on a sound basis, so that industrial revolution also could proceed apace. Only on the basis of the destruction of feudalism and capitalism growth on a dimension which is suitable to a country like India can take place. Now, astonishingly enough, but we are not astonished, what happened during the first great French Revolution is this. It was the French bourgeois and the French capitalists which destroyed with one stroke the feudal structure and gave a plan to the peasant. That is the French Revolution. Again, in England it was Cromwell who did the same thing. It is quite true that millions suffered. All the same Cromwell in England four hundred years ago struck a deadly blow to feudalism and the landlord class. In Germany it was the other way. In Germany there were peasant wars. The entire policy was to urge the feudal landlords to take to capitalist farming. Now, they took two hundred years and they began to develop slowly. It is called YUNKERDOM in German. The Government of India are trying to follow in their footsteps. The so-called land reform, one after another, as everybody knows, has been a huge hoax perpetrated on the multi-million peasants of our country. The result is this. Go to Bihar. There was a land ceiling of 150 acres at one time. Now, perhaps it has been brought down, but still there is one landlord who owns in his own name and benami 30,000 acres, where the land ceiling is 150 acres. He owns a private aeroplane. That is how land reforms have been done in this country. Repeatedly and a number of times questions have