

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You frame your question and he will tell you what it is.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I asked him a question and he has sought unwittingly to mislead the House. Does the Minister say this because certain Bills were passed which gave a democratic set-up or responsible Government to Tripura and other places but did not mention Delhi? Does he want to make out that simply because these Bills were passed, therefore, it has been taken for granted that Parliament does not want to give a democratic set-up to Delhi? I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether in the consultation it was not pointed out by the representatives of political parties that they would not take this thing as an alternative to the demand for full democratic set-up in Delhi which means responsible Government and whether this demand is still before him. If it is so, who are opposing this, which political party in Delhi is opposing this demand so that Government has not made up its mind or maybe made up its mind in the wrong way?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: It is a long question but the answer is simple. In Delhi, they may want it or want some share in some political power but it was considered in the larger interests of the nation and it was discussed and disposed of in Parliament. It is not that it cannot be raised again but I am only talking of a certain stage of decision. This is the position now. So far as the other questions are concerned, that is the offers etc. that were made, naturally it is a matter for further consultation and consideration.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Is it not a fact that all the political parties operating in Delhi want a full responsible Government including the Congress? Congress is included in all.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: I have answered that, Madam. All of them in Delhi want that.

THEFT OF THE SACRED HAIR FROM HAZRATBAL SHRINE

{ **†SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR:**
SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR:
SHRI J. K. P. N. SINGH:
*69. { **SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL:**
SHRI RAM SAHAI:
SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA:
SHRI P. L. KUREEL
URF TALIB:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the investigations into the theft of the sacred hair of Prophet Mohammad from the Hazratbal shrine in Kashmir have been completed;

(b) if so, what are the findings thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken against the culprits in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA): (a) to (c) Investigations with regard to the disappearance and subsequent recovery of the sacred relic of the Prophet from the Hazratbal shrine are being pursued with vigour. The Central Intelligence Bureau are affording every possible assistance to the State Police in this matter. Some arrests have already been made and more arrests may have to be made later. The investigation is not yet complete, but as soon as it is completed the case will be filed in court.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: Yesterday the Minister while making a statement told the House that he would reveal the names of those people who had been found guilty. Can we have them?

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri M. N. Govindan Nair.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: I am getting the names in the course of the day, and I should in terms of what I said then give those names. But I would ask the hon. Members to put up with me for a moment, if they will allow that latitude in public interest, to just defer that for two or three days. If it is asked, I will have to do that. There are, as I have learnt and as I understand, some considerations. If we give them due weight, then we might agree to the request that I have put up before the House, just to defer for two or three days.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Do I understand about that request that the request is being made with a view to facilitating or not prejudicing certain steps the Government may take, some more arrests and so on?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think you must take the Minister at his word.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: He has asked for this latitude. We cannot take the Minister for granted.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: According to the press reports there were certain disgruntled elements who were dissatisfied due to removal of Bakshi Ghulam Mohammad from the Prime Ministership of Kashmir, and it has been reported in the press that perhaps those disgruntled elements might have something to do with the theft of the sacred relic. If so, may I know whether the Government have examined it from this point of view, and what is the finding of this enquiry?

SHRI SONUSING DHANSING PATIL: On a point of order, Madam. Can an hon. Member assume a particular thing and then put a question?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think he should just put a question.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: I am referring to the press reports that Bakshi Ghulam Mohammad . . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You put a question.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: My question is whether the Government have enquired into it from the point of view of this allegation, and if so, what is the finding or what is the result of that enquiry?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: The enquiry has to embrace every aspect of it, every possibility, every clue. Then ultimately some are rejected or eliminated and then we come to certain findings.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: May I know whether any action is contemplated against the officers responsible for delaying identification of the holy relic in Kashmir which caused untold suffering and misery to the people of Kashmir?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: No, Madam, I do not think that inference is justifiable.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Madras, the hon. Home Minister's request to allow him not to disclose the names today has further deepened the mystery. When he promised to disclose the names yesterday, the question of public interest must have been before him. In the other House he was pressed to disclose the names but he refused to do so. But in this House he agreed to disclose the names. We should like to know what stands in the way of Government disclosing the names today, why there should be time required for two or three days.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister made it very clear that he is not saying "no" to you but he is only asking you to wait for two or three days.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Let us know the names which are in his possession.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: If my word is accepted and if I assure the hon. Member right there, there is no

mystery of any kind about it, there is no mystery at all. There is a reason and the reason is public interest. After two or three days I will be able to show, I will be able to convince that there is a purpose behind it.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: What has happened during the last night that the public interest is being invoked now? Am I to understand that the public interest was not considered when the Home Minister promised to give the names yesterday?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: I will say well, I later had a realisation of public interest better than I had then.

(Interruptions)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I would not like all of you to speak together. I ask Mr. Lingam to put a supplementary.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: There has been a demand that the enquiry into this affair should be an open one and by a Judge from outside the State. May we know the attitude of the Government with regard to this?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think that was made clear yesterday. I think the Minister answered that question yesterday.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: I had answered that in those terms.

SHRI GANGA SARAN SINHA: One thing. Yesterday the Home Minister categorically gave this assurance that he will disclose the names today. I would like to say that public interest also demands that the mystery should not be continued. Already enough harm has been done by this type of mystery. So many rumours are going on, so many things are being said. It may react in a wrong way. It will be bad for us, bad for Kashmir and bad for the country. He should give the names so that those who are outside also know something about this. Therefore, I would like to say that it is not proper for the Home Minister

to back out from the assurance he gave us yesterday.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: If I am permitted to say, of course, I do not question their knowledge, their patriotism, their understanding of all these things, but there are some things which for a very short period possibly it may not be advisable to disclose. And why not trust?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I give a solution to the problem. It is true that he can speak in the name of public interest. It may be, I do not know, we do not know. But yesterday when he said it, it was very categorical. Today he is saying that in public interest he will not divulge. He wants two or three days. Therefore, the public would be kept guessing for two or three days. Would it not be proper for the hon. Minister to state without divulging much as to why specially he needs this little time instead of using the expression 'public interest'? Does he want it for further investigation in order to complete a process almost within the stage of completion of arresting some people whom he wants to arrest?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: The hon. Member need not lose his sleep for a single night on account of the information not being revealed. It is not going to cause any hurt to anybody, I can assure him, and if I disclose the reason for it, I disclose the names.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Next question.

شری پیارے لال کریل دہطالبہ :

ہوا تعجب ہے سوال کرنے والوں میں
میرا بھی نام ہے اور مجھے ایک
سیلیمنتری سوال کرنیکی بھی اجازت
نہیں دی جاتی -

†[श्री प्यारेलाल कुरील 'तालिब' :
बड़ा ताज्जुब है सवाल करने वालों में मेरा
भी नाम है और मुझे एक सल्लिमेटरी सवाल
करने की भी इजाजत नहीं दी जाती ।]

Madam, it is a great injustice to me.

ERADICATION OF CORRUPTION

- *70. { SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:
SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN
NAIR:
SHRI N. SRI RAMA
REDDY:
SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA:
SHRI A. M. TARIQ:
SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he made a statement promising eradication of corruption prevalent in administration and elsewhere within the next two years;

(b) if so, on what basis he has made this promise;

(c) whether he has concretised any nation-wide plans for effectively combating corruption; and

(d) if so, what is the nature of those plans and in what manner the public will be associated with them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R. M. HAJARNAVIS): (a) to (d) The Home Minister has set a time-limit of two years for making a significant, substantial and noticeable reduction in corruption. It has been decided to set up a Central Vigilance Commission which will start functioning in a few days. The State Governments have been advised to set up similar organisations. Voluntary organisations whose co-operation was sought have decided to set up a Samyukta Samachar Samiti. The details of the organisational set-up of the Samiti and

† [] Hindi transliteration.

‡The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Bhupesh Gupta.

its functions are being worked out. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce has assured support to Government in all reasonable measures to combat the evil of corruption. The contemplated Department of Administrative Reforms will pay special attention to the problem of administrative delays which are among the major causes of corruption. The recommendations of the Santhanam Committee, expected to be received soon, would provide basis for further planned action to check corruption.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Our hon. Home Minister will kindly listen. He is not generally given to demagogy.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He will not listen to a statement, he will listen to your question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The question follows. I am asking him to listen to me. Therefore, I should like to ask him a question. I ask him to listen to my question. Sometimes we are in a mess. Anyhow, he is not given to demagogy. Now, on what basis did he repeatedly make the public statement that within two years he would either eradicate corruption or would quit office? That is what he said, a bold statement no doubt. On what basis did he say that? Do I understand from him that he has decided to include within the scope of the investigation of the Vigilance Commission the allegations against the Ministers? If not, why not? Has he taken any step to consult the various political parties to evolve the necessary machinery and also set up the same team of investigation at the State level, if necessary by legislation so that not only the officers of the Government . . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please come to the question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You are not accustomed to my questions; Dr. Radhakrishnan was.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please put your question.