

You cannot create walls. Even if you build steel walls, ideas will penetrate. Similarly, the question of communist ideology, he says, can influence them. If it has impressed a majority of the people, you cannot prevent it. I do not want that some arrangements should be made, so that some of my ideologies could be spread in that way. Ideas get in, politics get in, you cannot prevent it. But we are not using this platform, we are not using the forum of Parliament or this Resolution to get the support of the army. I know how much propaganda is there. I know the conditions of things today. It was said that we want to do something undesirable, rather unconstitutional and subvert the whole army, etc. These are uncharitable comments. So, I have nothing more to say about this. That is why I say that if really the Communist Party is out to disrupt the Armed Forces, this is not the way, this House is not the forum. One who is out to do mischief will not make a noise about it. That is why I am not out for mischief. If anybody wants to do it, he will not do it in this way and from this platform. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"This House is of opinion that Government should appoint a committee consisting of 23 Members of Parliament, 15 from the Lok Sabha and 8 from the Rajya Sabha, to enquire into the living and working conditions of officers and other ranks in the Armed Forces and the educational and other facilities at present available to their children living in military camp areas and to make recommendations for the improvement of such conditions and facilities."

The motion was negatived.

RESOLUTION REGARDING RE-ORGANISATION AND DECENTRALISATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sekhar. He is not here. The next Resolution, Mr. Pendse.

SHRI LALJI PENDSE (Bombay): Mr. Deputy Chairman, the Resolution which I am called upon to move runs thus:—

"This House is of opinion that Government should take necessary steps forthwith to reorganise the administrative structure of the country with a view to decentralise the administration and to enable the active participation of the people in developmental activity."

The Resolution which I have just placed before the House is simple. It cannot have obviously any ulterior motives. If at all, it has been dictated by the sole consideration of focussing the attention of this House on certain very glaring defects which, in the words of Shri C. D. Deshmukh, cause much anxiety. Only a few days ago, as you know, Shri Deshmukh was addressing a distinguished audience in Madras and he observed that the standard of administration had fallen both in the conduct of day-to-day affairs, as well as in the implementation of the Plan development, that in all branches it has become inadequate and erratic, and that caused great anxiety. He further observed that the official failure could be traced to the Ministers' incompetence and, in a mood of despair, he exclaimed that that was a sign of "Dharma Glani", of languishing of moral law. Now, you will all agree with me that Mr. Deshmukh is a reputed administrator of a very high order and such an administrator when he makes certain

[Shri Lalji Pendse.]

remarks about the administration—you will also agree—cannot be easily dismissed, as we are wont to do in the case of our political opponents. I would beg of you to believe me, therefore, that this Resolution is permeated with the spirit of national well-being and nothing beyond it. I am tempted to make it very clear again, because I have seen how the previous Resolution fared at the hands of some of our esteemed hon. Members. And I also beg of you that the Resolution be considered in the light of the spoken word in its favour, rather than imagining what was not spoken and why.

Sir, the premises of my Resolution are these. If our plans are intended to achieve any degree of success—as undoubtedly they are—then active and willing co-operation and participation of our people in the numerous developmental activities becomes our first charge. But people do not participate just for nothing.

कर्मयोगे वा विकारस्ते कृतेषु वदाचनम्”
may be a good gospel, but in worldly affairs men are full of expectations. The grand old man of Mahabharata has also conceded: “अयस्य
कृषो दास.”

That is, man is dictated by material considerations. Therefore, if this participation is to be possible and effective, the only way is to enliven interest and to create a sense of responsibility and initiative in the people, which implies reward and responsibility. If this is not done and if activity remains restricted or strictly controlled by a stiff wooden administrative machinery, then the popular

interest and initiative cannot be aroused. The Resolution, therefore, urges upon the Government to reorganise the whole administrative structure in such a way that the administration becomes fully decentralised, so that the people are enthused to participate in the development activities. That also is the burden of the Balvantrai Committee's Report, which had suggested some valuable structural reforms. Unfortunately for us, as it often happens, most of the States, except perhaps, I think, Kerala and partially Rajasthan, have rejected the suggestions.

Sir, the main character of our administrative structure is the same stiff wooden machine without any feeling. It has neither widened nor grown. The result is that the people for whom it is run are as far away as they ever were. Maybe, a few career hunters may have reaped some fruits, but that is apart. We are not concerned with it. That is why the Balvantrai Committee Report advocates a structural change at the district level. On page 5, para 22, it observes:—

“In such a democratic structure of administration, the functions of the popular body would include the entire general administration and development of the area other than such functions as law and order, administration of justice and certain functions pertaining to the revenue administration.”

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can continue on the next day. The House stands adjourned till 1 A.M. on Monday.

The House then adjourned at five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Monday, the 17th August, 1959