



The beating up of a prominent member of the Anna team, Prashant Bhushan, in his own chamber by some youths is unfortunate. In a democracy, everyone has the fundamental right to express his views and to beat someone up merely because he does not conform to your views is outright unacceptable. But, this incident has given rise to several points.

1) Is the right to express one's views unlimited? The Indian constitution itself defines these limits. The limits include not giving an opinion against the nation and the constitution and also favouring the separatists. Many members of the Anna team have been openly advocating the cause of the Naxalites and by doing this, they are being anti-national and anti-constitutional. Now, they are standing behind the Kashmiri terrorists and endorsing their stand. Lawyers like Prashant Bhushan have been fighting the cases of such terrorists for the lure of money. In the name of professional freedom, this can be justified. But, should not this be some fodder for thought that people like Amar Singh and the traitors always come to only these lawyers when they are in trouble?

2) Some members of the Anna team have been regularly availing the services of the NGOs of these separatists in terms of money and facilities and in return making favourable speeches on behalf of them, thereby fulfilling the incomplete agenda of these groups. Now, is this, in any way, a lesser form of corruptions? In fact, the corruption of this kind is even more harmful than graft. Then, why is Anna silent on this?

3) Prashant, Medha and Agnivesh have been regularly sharing the dais with the separatists and even make favourable speeches in support of their cause. They even support their anti-constitutional demands. Now, can we allow them to do all this on the pretext that these are their personal opinions? How can Anna, who has spoken against the indisciplined police officer and stooge of the Congress, Sanjiv Bhatt, be silent on these issues? How can he allow such people to sit beside him?

4) During the fasting of Anna, Imam Bukhari, infamous for making



anti-national slogans had asked the muslims not to join the Anna movement as 'Bharat Mata ki Jai' and 'Vande Matram' were anti-Islamic, according to him. The very next day, the members of the team landed at the doorstep of the Imam to explain their position and make it palatable to the Imam. This is a very dangerous example of appeasement. Won't this lead to an encouragement in the separatist mentality of some groups? Anna should also express his opinion about these people.

5) The youth who were involved in the beating up of Prashant are now in the hands of the law and the law will take appropriate action against them. But, the knowledgeable lawyer, Prashant, later beat the youth mercilessly . Can he still stake his claim to be a votary of peace? Should law now not take action against him?

In his blogs, this writer has written a lot in appreciation of Anna. He is working towards a change in the society which has not happened in ages. But, there are many members of his team, who are using his image and reach to serve their own selfish interests. The crime of anti-nationalist activities is unpardonable. The country is eager to know Anna's views on these people and their activities.