

Do we now live in a police state?

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My old friend Prem (Lord) Sikka posted this Tweet last night:

<https://twitter.com/premnsikka/status/1668728811670716423?s=20>

The vote in question was to block changes in the Act that will now allow police the sole discretion to decide when a demonstration is likely to cause a nuisance or not, and so be permitted or not.

The Greens in the Lords planned a blocking motion that would have blocked this.

The LibDerms supported it.

So did many crossbench peers.

The Bill could have been blocked.

But Labour said it was not its job to block government legislation in the Lords, and so they abstained - letting the Bill pass.

As a result, we now have a law that only permits protests with the permission of the police.

The police are institutionally racist. They are misogynistic. They are notoriously right-wing. And Labour gave them the power to determine the right to protest.

No wonder Prem was furious. So am I.

Two polls:

[poll id="66"]

And:

[poll id="67"]

