

**Mahalanobis Committee**

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- \*415. { **Shri Morarka:**  
**Shri K. N. Tiwary:**  
**Shri Bhakt Dashan:**  
**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:**  
**Shri Sham Lal Saraf:**  
**Shri Yashpal Singh:**  
**Shri Sarjoo Pandey:**  
**Shri D. C. Sharma:**  
**Shri Nath Pai:**  
**Shri Mohammad Elias:**  
**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:**  
**Shri Umanath:**

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mahalanobis Committee on concentration of wealth has submitted any report to Government;

(b) if so, what are its main findings; and

(c) whether a copy of the same would be laid on the Table?

**The Minister of Planning and Labour and Employment (Shri Nanda):**

(a) No.

(a) Does not arise.

(c) Decision will be taken only after the receipt of the Report by Government.

**Shri Morarka:** May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the press communique or an item of news in the Press in which actually extracts from the report have appeared and it was said that the report was being submitted to the Government within a day or two?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman):** Perhaps, the hon. Member is referring to a report, not a communique. He is only interested in getting it.

**Shri Morarka:** I said report.

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** It is true that a draft of a large number of tables and data which require careful consideration of the Government was considered at six consecutive

sessions of the committee in July this year. Certain tentative conclusions were reached which are being examined. Attempts are being made to collect additional information. The committee is expected to meet again in October this year.

**Shri Morarka:** May I know why this committee is taking such a long time, why it is not meeting every week or every month and why it is postponing its meetings from month to month?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** Experts of some standing are asked to serve on the committee. They cannot be ordered about. They are meeting quite frequently. The work is complicated and the report may contain a lot of important appendices and data. All that is being collected.

**श्री विभूति मिश्र :** जब यह काम इतना जल्दी है, तो सरकार द्वारा निपुक्त इस कमेटी को अपनी रिपोर्ट देने में इतनी देर लगाने की क्या जरूरत है ? आज स्थिति यह है कि एक जगह घन इकट्ठा हो रहा है और दूसरी जगह गरीबी बढ़ रही है । इस समस्या को इम्पार्टेंट्स को देखते हुए सरकार इस बारे में जल्दी क्यों नहीं करती है ?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** Various data are being collected and they are being examined by the committee. A draft was considered at 6 meetings in July this year.

**Shri Bhakt Darshan:** Is there any truth in the rumour that there are serious differences among the members of this committee itself which are hindering the work of the committee?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** We are not aware of the rumour.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** May I know whether the attention of the Minister has been drawn to the press report of the speech of Prof. Mahalanobis given to the Members of Parliament in the South Avenue Club in which he has said that our economy is suffering in different ways and that it leads to wide gaps in concentration of wealth? May I know whether, in

the light of this view, the Government propose to ask this committee to submit the report earlier on this important burning issue or just play with it?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** I take it that the report will be submitted soon. Prof. Mahalanobis is entitled to his own opinions, because he is a man of standing in this statistical field.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** We want to know this because it is an important issue before the country, and every day we are undergoing great economic suffering. What do Government propose to do about it?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member wants that the report should be submitted earlier. That is what Government also say.

**Shri Sham Lal Saraf:** With this expanding economy in the country, may I know whether any attempt has been made to see that concentration of wealth does not take place in particular sections of the community? For instance, some tribes are....

**Mr. Speaker:** Instances need not be given. It is so general a question.

**Shri K. N. Tiwary:** Are Government aware that a portion of the report has already appeared in the press, and it is mentioned that 69 per cent earn less than Rs. 19 per month? May I know whether there is any truth in it or not?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** The report has not been received. It may be an intelligent anticipation by someone.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह :** इस कमेटी की रिपोर्ट को प्रैक्टिकल शेप देने के लिये क्या सरकार इस बात के लिये तैयार है कि शहरी जायदादों का भी सीलिंग किया जाए ?

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** रिपोर्ट तो आने दीजिये ।

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** Is it not a fact that the pattern of wealth distribution in this country is changing very

fast, and by the time we get this report, the findings may be mostly out of date?

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri S. M. Banerjee.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Apart from waiting patiently for the submission of the report, may I know what other steps Government propose to take to avoid further concentration in the Third Plan?

**Mr. Speaker:** We are discussing the report now, and not the general question about avoiding concentration.

**Indian Traders Detained in Tibet**

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\*416. { Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:  
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian traders in Tibet have been detained by the Chinese authorities there;

(b) if so, how many;

(c) the reasons for such detention; and

(d) whether any efforts are being made by Government to secure their repatriation?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh):** (a) and (b). Only one Indian trader was refused an exit permit by the Chinese authorities for some time. He has since returned to India.

(c) He was not permitted to leave for India on the ground that a complaint made against him by a Bhutanese national was under investigation.

(d) Government had made a strong representation to the Chinese authorities through their Consulate-General in Lhasa as a result of which his release was secured.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Is it a fact that most of our traders in Tibet