

(c) The additional expenditure on expansion of the Geological Survey of India and of its operations during the Second Plan is likely to be of the order of Rs. 417 lakhs.

Shri Kadiyan: May I know whether, with the strengthening of the Geological Survey of India, it will have departments in every State so that geological survey can be undertaken simultaneously in all the States?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I am afraid, there cannot be a simultaneous survey of the entire resources generally known to exist in all the States. It is a very big programme and for that, phasing has to be done. In the Second Plan and the Third Plan, we propose to phase very carefully the survey work that is before us.

Shri Kasliwal: May I know whether in the strengthening of this particular team, Government have given any special attention to the exploration of non-ferrous metals in the country which are in acute shortage here?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, non-ferrous metal problems have also been very urgently taken into account when this expansion will be taken into consideration.

Shri Kasliwal: The hon. Minister has said in his reply that the team will be strengthened only in Calcutta, Madras and Hyderabad which are areas not included in areas where non-ferrous metals are to be found. May I know whether any other offices are proposed to be opened for this purpose?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: These regional offices are not necessarily linked up with the detailed prospecting programme for non-ferrous metals. They have got some other work also, supervision and all that. As I said, we have already taken into consideration all the aspects before us for intensive prospecting of non-ferrous metals.

Shri Achar: May I know how the regions are selected for the geological survey and also whether the west coast is selected for that?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: These regional offices when they are established are based on the conveniences of the Central administrative department and also on the availability of facilities. I suppose the question of having a regional office in the western coast is also under the consideration of Government.

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is over.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Sir, may I request that question No. 600 be taken because it is very important?

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. Minister willing to give the answer

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): Which question, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: Question No. 600.

Shri G. B. Pant: Of course, I am willing to submit to the wishes of the House or even a single Member of it.

Karnal Murder Case

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*600. { **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri M. C. Jain:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the recent judgment announced in the Karnal Murder Case;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that there are some strictures against the Punjab Government in the judgment;

(c) whether Government have examined them; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G. B. Pant): (a) to (d). I have seen some extracts from the judgment in the newspapers. The matter primarily concerns the State Government and I have drawn the attention of the Chief Minister to it. I understand that the question of filing an appeal to the

High Court is under the consideration of the Punjab Government.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether any reply has been received from Punjab so far in this regard?

Shri G. B. Pant: The reply has not yet reached me. I have written to the Chief Minister. The Chief Minister told me that the judgment is under examination and they are giving thought to the question as to whether an appeal should be filed, and, if so, when.

Mr. Speaker: One word before hon. Members put questions. (*Interruptions*).

Order, order. Under the law during the time allowed for preferring an appeal the case is still *sub judice* though no appeal is filed. (*Interruptions*).

Order, order. I only want to inform the House that when the time for filing the appeal has not expired it would not be proper to put questions about filing the appeal etc.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: I do not want to go into the question of the judgment and the strictures that have been passed against the Chief Minister of Punjab. Pending this case the officer concerned was under suspension and he is still under suspension. I would like to know whether after the court of session has passed these strictures it is proper for the Chief Minister to continue in office or not and whether Government have considered also suspending him from Chief Ministership pending appeal.

Shri G. B. Pant: The Chief Minister is elected by the party. If because of any particular action or development the party loses confidence in him it is open to the party to pass a vote of no confidence. The Government of India as such has no authority to appoint a Chief Minister or to dismiss a Chief Minister.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Sir, I do not agree with the Home Minister because I think the President has got powers. May I know whether if a court of law passes a stricture of this kind against the Chief Minister and the party continues to hold confidence in him the Government of India will tolerate such a situation?

Shri G. B. Pant: The question is a constitutional one. Firstly, as to the character of the strictures itself there may be a *difference of opinion*. I have not seen the judgment in full but I remember having seen in one of the reports the remarks of the court that the Chief Minister was not directly or indirectly responsible for the false evidence that has been led in the case. (*Some Hon. Members:* No). That is a fact. That can be checked from the text of the judgment. So, on that point there is no question of argument.

But I am saying that when a matter is pending appeal, so far as other officers are concerned, if there are I.A.S. or I.P.S. officers with whom the Central Government is concerned, these strictures still remain; and in appeal also if they are confirmed that the Government of India will have to give thought to the matter. But so long as the subject of this question is concerned no final decision can be reached. I would appeal even to the hon. Members of this House to always hold the view that so long as the matter is subject to revision or appeal no final decision should be reached mentally even by individual members (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Order please. I will allow all hon. Members to put questions if I find them reasonable so far as the questions are concerned. The Question Hour ought not to be utilised for the purpose of a discussion as to what action ought to be taken by Government. That question has been put. The hon. Minister says that so long as it is *sub judice* we cannot take any final decision in the matter. (*Interruptions*).

Order please. What is the use of interrupting me? I have no objection to allow all reasonable questions. As a matter of fact I allowed the question to be taken up after the Question Hour is over. This is an extraordinary procedure that I have adopted today. Therefore, hon. Members will choose other remedies for impressing upon Government the need to take action.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: May I know whether the attention of the Home Minister has been drawn to the fact that a witness who gave evidence in this particular case was murdered within a few days? Will the Government consider immediately removing Shri Grewal from the service of the Punjab Government and transfer him somewhere else as he is an IPS officer?

Shri G. B. Pant: So far as these particular matters go, it is for the Punjab Government to take proper action (*Interruption*). It is open to anyone whether he be an officer or a non-official to move the court for protection if he feels that there is danger to peace or security. But if I am satisfied that there are reasons which call for any advice being tendered by me to the Punjab Government I shall be prepared to tender such advice. (*Interruptions*).

Raja Mahendra Pratap: There is another way of thinking also. Judges are also men. They can suspect them too.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether it is a fact that Shri D. S. Grewal in his application for transfer has levelled serious allegations against the Chief Minister of Punjab? If so, have any findings been given regarding those allegations by the judge concerned?

Shri G. B. Pant: I do not know which application is being referred to. But I have not examined any particular application nor can one reach a finding simply after a glance through an application.

Shri M. C. Jain: May I know whether the Home Minister is prepared to lay a copy of the judgment on the Table of the House?

Shri G. B. Pant: I understand that so far the Punjab Government has been able to get only one copy from the court of the Sessions Judge. If the reports are correct, the judgment is supposed to cover more than 300 pages. . . . (*An Hon. Member: 800*). Well, I stand corrected. When copies are available, I think anyone interested can get it from the copying department without my intervening in the matter. It is not a question concerning the Central Government as such. It is a law and order problem.

श्री प्रकाश बीर सास्त्री : क्या गृह मंत्री मद्दोदय को यह पता है कि अभी शिमला में पंजाब के डिप्टी कमिश्नरों की एक बहुत बड़ी कान्फेंस हुई थी जिसमें उन्होंने अपने मार्ग में जाने वाली कुछ बाधाओं की चर्चा की थी जिससे कि वे स्वतन्त्रतापूर्वक पंजाब के अन्दर कार्य नहीं कर पा रहे हैं ? क्या ऐसी स्थिति में यह आवश्यक नहीं है कि पंजाब को एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन के सम्बन्ध में इस हाउस के अन्दर कुछ विचार किया जाये ?

श्री गो० ब० पन्त : इस हाउस में विचार करने की इजाजत देना तो स्वीकर साहब के भ्रष्टत्यार की बात है, मेरे भ्रष्टत्यार की बात नहीं है । मगर मैं समझता हूँ कि इस सदन में पंजाब के एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन के बारे में विचार करना प्राविशाल आर्टीनोमी की जो कुछ बुनियादी बातें हैं, उनके खिलाफ होया ।

Shri Goray: When the Prime Minister's attention was drawn to this question in yesterday's Press Conference, he said that in Punjab the police were always different. What does it mean? Does it mean that they have more powers or are more corrupt? (*Interruptions*).

Shri G. B. Pant: What presumably it means is that they are more robust and stalwart than other people.

Shri Vajpayee: Is it a fact that this particular police officer has approached the Central Government for his transfer from the State of Punjab to any other State and, if so, what is the response?

Shri G. B. Pant: Shri Grewal saw me and I had a talk with him. But all this was of a confidential character because ordinarily he is not expected to see me in my capacity as Home Minister. But I met him as a gentleman.

Shri Vajpayee: My question has not been replied.... (Interruptions).

An Hon. Member: What was the gentleman's agreement?

Shri Braj Raj Singh: The strictures passed in the judgment seem to suggest that the Constitution is breaking down in Punjab. The hon. Home Minister says that the Chief Minister enjoyed the confidence of the majority party there. May I know whether the Government of India would consider the matter in the light of the breaking down of the Constitution and take suitable action?

Shri G. B. Pant: Even the opponents have not yet, I think, asserted or insinuated that there has been a break-down of the Constitution in the Punjab.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Decline in the Value of Indian Rupee in Hong Kong

S.N.Q. 4. Shri P. G. Deb: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the value of Indian rupee has gone down in Hong Kong recently;

(b) if so, what is the latest position; and

(c) the steps taken to avert the fall in value of Indian rupee?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) The official value of the rupee which is 120 Hong Kong

dollars for Rs. 100 remains unchanged and exchange at this rate is freely available for all authorised transactions. It is only the free market rate of Indian rupee notes used for unauthorised transactions that has declined since June 1959.

(b) On November 23, 1959, the unofficial exchange rate in Hong Kong for unauthorised transactions is reported to have been 89 Hong Kong dollars for Rs. 100.

(c) The fall in the unofficial value is due to the measures taken by this Government to prevent the leakage of foreign exchange caused by the smuggling out of Indian currency for the purpose of smuggling in of gold etc. The Government does not consider it necessary to take any steps regarding fluctuations in unofficial rates for the rupee. The enormous volume of authorised foreign currency transactions is in no way affected.

Shri P. G. Deb: What is the position of the Indian rupee in the Southeast Asian countries such as Singapore, Malaya, Indonesia inasmuch as the Hong Kong market affects these areas?

Shri Morarji Desai: It does not arise from this question at any rate.

Shri Joachim Alva: Is this fall in the rupee due to the anti-smuggling measures enforced by the Government or whether a large amount of currency still goes out of the country?

Shri Morarji Desai: I have very clearly stated that it is due to the steps taken by this Government to stop smuggling.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय को मालूम है कि सिंगापुर की इंटरनेशनल मार्केट में बैंक में अगर आफिशली हम रुपया लेने के लिए जाते हैं तो जब कि वहाँ का डालर एक रुपया आठ आने में प्राप्त होता था, आज वह डालर एक रुपया तेरह आने में प्राप्त होता है, यदि हाँ, तो इसका क्या कारण है, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूँ ?