

aware of that. So far as we know, only the ex-Ruler of Gondal was arrested. As you have suggested it is better to wait till investigations are completed.

**Shri A. M. Tariq:** One question, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not going to allow. Next question.

### Hindu Succession Act

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\*1914. { **Dr. Sushila Nayar:**  
**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:**  
**Shrimati Manjula Devi:**  
**Shrimati Satyabhama Devi:**  
**Shrimati Laxmi Bai:**

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the report of the Committee appointed by the Punjab Government in which recommendation has been made to abolish the right of daughter to inherit agricultural property of her father as granted under the Hindu Succession Act; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken to safeguard the rights of the daughter as ensured by the Hindu Succession Act, from being whittled down?

**The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Dr. Sushila Nayar:** In December last year a question was tabled by several hon. Members of this House wherein they had drawn the attention of the hon. Minister to a resolution passed by the Punjab Assembly and this committee which was appointed as a result of that resolution is reported to have made this recommendation by the newspapers. The hon. Minister says that his attention has not been drawn to it. Will the hon. Minister look into this matter

and see to it that the rights of girls are protected including inheritance of landed property?

**Shri A. K. Sen:** The question was not with regard to newspaper reports but with regard to the report of this committee itself. The question was whether the attention of the Government had been drawn to the report of the committee itself. Our information now, subsequent to enquiries being made, is that there has been no report yet by this committee set up by the Punjab Assembly. We enquired, after the receipt of this question, from the Punjab Government and we have been informed that there has been no report yet of this committee. So, unless the report is first published and we know what the contents are, it is a little premature to think of either safeguarding or not safeguarding the rights of women.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** In view of the fact that the Punjab Government and also, I think, the Assembly had debated and made a special point that since agricultural land is within the purview of the State List it is out of the scope of the Central Government to legislate for a share of the daughter in the landed property of the father, may I know whether Government has enquired into this position? What is the legal position and is the law, as we have passed it here, fully safeguarded from the point of view of law?

**Shri A. K. Sen:** It is our opinion that though the Punjab Assembly is competent to pass a legislation of this sort for its own territory yet that law will be subject to the assent of the President.

**Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav:** May I know whether this social legislation has been brought into practice and implemented anywhere in any State in India?

**Mr. Speaker:** That does not arise out of this question. Next question.

**Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav:** The heading of the question is that.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

**Commission of Enquiry into Assam Riots**

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\*1915. { **Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:**  
**Shri Tangamani:**  
**Shri Indrajit Gupta:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the findings of Commissions of Enquiry into Gauhati firings and Goreswar riots are still being studied by the Assam Government;

(b) the reasons for the long delay in making them public;

(c) whether copies of these have been sent to the Central Government;

(d) in view of the fact that these enquiries were instituted after the Enquiry Committee sent by Parliament and the debate in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, when these reports will be laid on the Table; and

(e) what are the main findings?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):**

(a) Yes.

(b) The State Government have not completed their examination of these reports, and the question of publication can only be considered thereafter.

(c) We have obtained copies of the report relating to the Gauhati firing. The report on the Goreswar incidents has not yet been received.

(d) and (e). On a point of fact, the Commission of Enquiry to enquire into the firing incidents at Gauhati was set up by the State Government on 3rd August, 1960, while the delegation of the Members of both Houses of Parliament was appointed on 8th August 1960. The reports of the Commissions are still under the

consideration of the State Government who are treating them as confidential. The decision regarding the publication of the reports will have to be taken when the State Government have completed the examination and have formulated their views on the reports. The matter is still under correspondence with the State Government.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** On the 20th March also a similar answer was given to this House, namely, that the reports were under consideration of the State Government. In view of the fact that the Assam Government is unduly delaying this, may I know whether the Central Government proposes to lay a copy of it on the Table of this House?

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):** We have very recently obtained a copy of the report from the Assam Government on the Gauhati incident and firing. We have not been able to obtain the report on the Goreswar incident. It will not be possible to place a copy of the report on the Table of the House till the State Governments have formulated their own views.

12-00 hrs.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** The hon. Minister has stated that the Commission of Enquiry about the Gauhati firing had been instituted earlier than the formation of the Parliamentary Committee. In view of the fact that one of the recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee was to enquire into the Gaureshwar incidents and other incidents taking place there, may I know whether it is not the right of this House also to consider those findings?

**Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri:** I do not deny that fact. But the point is that we cannot go ahead in this matter till the State Government have completed their consideration of the report and given us their views on the matter.