

हुआ था। नागा कौंसिल के लोग गये थे किसी खास मौके पर। हजारों आदमी वहाँ जमा हुए थे। वहाँ गाने हो रहे थे, बच्चे गा रहे थे। तीन सौ गज के फासले पर शायद वो आदमी आये और उन्होंने गोली चलाई और बेचारे दो बच्चे मारे गये। उन्होंने शायद बच्चों पर गोली नहीं चलाई, किसी और पर चलाई। लेकिन इक्के दुक्के इस तरह की घटनायें हो जाती हैं और इन को आसान नहीं है रोकना।

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the Government are aware of the fact that there are circulars issued by the so-called Naga federal government, particularly of the portion wherein it is said that the Chinese are at their doorstep and will help to liberate them and, if so, that was one of the reasons for the intensification of the activities of the hostiles, as the Deputy Minister has said?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I think that the posters to which the hon. Member referred are old ones. I do not think they are new ones. They mentioned all kinds of things. One of the chief things that they mentioned is that the United Nations is coming to help them. Obviously there is no truth in it. There is no possibility of anything happening. They try to keep up the flagging spirits of the people!

Shri Basumatari: May I know whether it is a fact that many of the hostile Nagas entered the Burmese border and, if it is so, what is the attitude of the Burma Government towards this?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There has been a difficulty we had to face because they cross the border on the other side. The Burmese Government have been informed and they have told us that they are taking steps.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know what steps Government have so far taken to get the release of our IAF crew who are in the custody of the Naga hostiles and who, according to Mr.

Gavin Young, are now in the Burmese territory?

Mr. Speaker: How does it arise out of this question. This refers to the Nagaland, the Naga Council and so The hon. Member is going into other details.

Shri Hem Barua: It is important.

Mr. Speaker: It may be important. But how does it arise out of this question? (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Our information is that Mr. Phizo is having his own Government there and his activities are not checked. Gavin Young, the correspondent of the *Observer* is helping him. I have forwarded the original letter of Mr. Phizo and Mr. Gavin Young to the Prime Minister. Actually, Mr. Phizo wants certain guarantees.

Mr. Speaker: I do not know how all this arises out of this question.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: As a matter of fact, I think there is another question on this particular matter. I do not know whether it is today or later.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Today.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is today. If you like, I can refer to it also.

Mr. Speaker: He can answer that question also. What is the number?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: 331.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. It may be answered.

Nagas

*331. **Shri Hem Barua:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Gavin Young, representative of the *Observer* who visited the Naga Hills sometime back, has written a series of articles for the London press criticising the Indian Government in relation to its policy regarding the hostile

Nagas and their demand for independence; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to give a correct appraisal of the situation obtaining in the Naga Hills vis-a-vis the demand for independence so far as British interest in the movement of the Naga Hills, to know about it, is concerned?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri J. N. Hazarika): (a) Yes.

(b) An article by our Deputy High Commissioner has appeared in the *Observer*, which refutes some of the misstatements made by Gavin Young in his articles. The book "Nagaland" by Dr. Verrier Elwin, which makes a balanced appraisal of the situation in Nagaland, has been distributed to our Posts abroad.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am sorry there is another question still. Anyhow, may I say that there is evidently some contact between Mr. Gavin Young, the journalist, and these people, because, as the hon. Member pointed out, Gavin Young sent a letter from one of the airmen there to the father of that airman who is in Kanpur. However, the present position is this. Some people—again, I think, through Mr. Gavin Young—approached the International Red Cross, asking them if they can arrange to be present at the time of the transfer of these airmen prisoners. The International Red Cross sent the letter to the Indian Red Cross. The Indian Red Cross referred it to us. We said "we have no objection; if your people are present there they can certainly be present there when the transfer is made." That is the present position.

Mr. Speaker: I think the hon. Prime Minister had Question No. 343 in mind.

Dr. Bam Subhag Singh: Question No. 295 also.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: If you permit, Sir, Question No. 343 also may be answered.

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Airmen held Captive by Naga Rebels

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*343. { **Shri Hem Barua:**
Shri Amjad Ali:
Pandit D. N. Tiwari:
Shri Rajendra Singh:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:
Shrimati Mafta Ahmed:
Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Naga rebel leader A. Z. Phizo has sent a communication to Government that the Indian airmen held captive by his followers in Nagaland would be freed soon; and

(b) if so, whether any mention has been made about the probable date of their release?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) and (b). The Government of India have received no such communication from Mr. Phizo. But in an article by Mr. Gavin Young in the *London Observer* on the 9th April, it was stated that the Naga hostiles would probably release the IAF airmen before long.

Mr. Gavin Young apparently also wrote to the British Red Cross Society for their help in arranging the release of the aircrew. This request was passed on by the British Red Cross to the International Red Cross who, in turn, addressed the Indian Red Cross. The Indian Red Cross informed us of this and enquired what they should do. They were told by the External Affairs Ministry that the Indian Red Cross representatives can be present along with the local Government officials at the time of the actual handing over of the aircrew.