

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I welcome the statement made by hon. Minister that he is principally agree to provide alternative houses for 5 lakh slum dwellers living around the Mumbai Airport.

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM : I have not said that I am sanctioning any scheme for providing alternative houses. Tomorrow you will quote it from the proceedings of the House. What I have said is that, we will abide by the outcome of the discussion and agreement reached in the meeting to be held between the Chief Secretary of Maharashtra Government and our Secretary in connection of providing alternative land for it. The second proposal received from the State Government is that 50 per cent of the land should be given to them and the remaining 50 percent to us. We are ready to do that.

[English]

I agree for both.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sometime the bureaucrats leave the problem as it is. In view of it I would like to make a submission that after receiving the report of the Secretary, whether the Government propose to set up any sub-group under your Chairmanship to take a decision in respect of the large number of slums in Mumbai?

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM : As so far the bureaucrats of my department are concerned, I would like to say that they are working with full devotion and I believe that they will find out a way. Horse obeys the instructions of his master and move towards right path if the master is right. I have full faith on my officers and I have given them rights to meet the Chief Secretary and local MPs. Even if the problem is not solved...

[English]

Definitely, I will intervene. I will call all of you and we will see that it is settled as early as possible.

[Translation]

Reservation to Minorities

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*124. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide separate reservation to minorities in Government jobs and educational institutions in view of their backwardness;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any constitutional hurdle in providing reservation for religious minorities on the basis of their backwardness; and

(d) if so, whether the Union Government propose to conduct any survey for social and economic backwardness of various minority communities to extend reservation benefit to them under Articles 15 and 16 ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : (a) to (d). There is no proposal under Government's consideration for giving separate reservation to religious minorities in Public Employment and Educational Institutions. However, those sections of minority communities which are socially and educationally backward have been included in the Central List of Other Backward Classes for the purpose of providing reservation in direct recruitment in civil posts and services under the Government of India. Similar reservations exist in many States.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : I thank the hon'ble Minister for the Statement made by him. Today's Prime Minister and the then Chief Minister of Karnataka, Hon'ble Shri H.D. Deve Gowda, while speaking as the Chief guest of the Jamia Milia Islamia University, had told in November, 1995 that he is in favour of reservation for the Muslim community and religious minorities in job and education. When he was the Chief Minister of Karnataka, he had given four percent reservation to this community. It is against the secularism to give reservation on the basis of religion in a secular country and this will create the feeling of segregation among the people. I agree with your reply. Instead of this, it would be good, if it is said that provision of reservation for students of poor classes of all the communities would be made. Would you like to do so?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Reservation is already available there for the people of economically weaker sections of the society like the people of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Whether the provision will also be made for the people other than SCs, STs and other backward classes?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : At present there is no such a scheme under consideration of the Government to give reservation for the minorities.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : The Government and especially the ruling Janata Dal have mentioned in their statements and manifesto as well that they will give reservation to dalit Christians and for the purpose they are going to prepare a Bill. I want to tell that there is not caste system among the dalit Christians. It will be clear from the records of the last 50 years that the percentage of the Christians population in the year 1951 was 2.26 as against the total population and in the year 1991-92 it increased to 2.30 percentage. There has been a marginal increase in the percentage. It means that the number of the Christians have not been increased too much in these 50 years. Inspite of that

the data shows that the number of Christians in jobs has increased, There is no caste-system in the Christian society and the Government are considering to give reservation to dalit Christians. In this way the reservation already made for the people of scheduled castes is decreasing whereas their population is increasing. I would like to ask the Government as to whether they are determined to bring a Bill seeking reservation for dalit Christians? Secondly, if the reservation is given to the dalit Christians then would it be from the quota of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes or a provision will be made for a separate quota for them.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Let me clear the query of the hon'ble Member as to whether the reservation will be given to the people of weaker sections of the society although they are from the upper caste or from the backward class. In this connection I would like to clear that we cannot give total reservation more than 50 percent. This House should consider that more than 50 percent reservation is given then people from economically weaker sections will also get reservation. Are we ready for it? As so far the matter of reservation for dalit Christian is concerned, we are determined to provide all those facilities to the dalit Christians under the reservation that are given to the people of scheduled castes.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Would the reservation be from their quota or there will be a separate provision...(Interruptions)

PROF. RITA VERMA : Whether they will be included in that?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : The Government are bringing the bill to give reservation to the dalit Christians by including them in the scheduled castes and the hon'ble member can raise this matter at that time.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have also raised this issued many times. My question is that whether the reservation will be given to them from the reservation quota of the scheduled castes or some other quota will be fixed?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : I have already told that the dalit Christians will be included in the reservation quota of scheduled castes...(Interruptions)

12.00 hrs.

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the hon'ble Minister just now is not satisfactory because if they are going to give reservation to the minorities from the 50 per cent reservation then it will be injustice with them, what you are telling dalit Christians. But there is no cast as dalit Christian in the Christian community. All of them come

under the community Christians. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister that the reservation to be given to the minorities under 50 per cent quota or beyond this...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon'ble Minister has already replied that there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to give reservation to minorities...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Any way, the question hour is over.

[Translation]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : You have given a chance to others and not to me to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Their names were in the list so they were given time.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : *

MR. DEPUTY DEPAKER : As their names were in the list so they were given an opportunity to speak.

[English]

I could not ignore it.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : *

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Her name was there in the list.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : *

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, I am on a point of order. The hon. Member has cast aspersions on the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I could not hear him.

SHRI RAM NAIK : The Chair has not understood it...(Interruptions)... The name of Shrimati Sheela Gautam was there in the list but he is saying that you allowed her...(Interruptions)... My request to you is to please examine the record and remove the remarks that are uncalled for...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will go through the record and then see.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.