

Central and State Governments have started a number of development schemes in these areas to improve the economic conditions of the local people including the people engaged on trade with Tibet by providing them with subsidiary means of livelihood locally. The special steps taken in this direction include the development of horticulture, construction of roads, development of cottage industries, sheep breeding and collection of medicinal herbs.

श्री भक्त बर्षन : क्या उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने या हिमाचल प्रदेश प्रशासन ने कोई सुझाव दिये हैं, या रुपयों की माग की है ? और क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने कोई विशेष सहायता दी है ?

Shri Datar: So far as I am aware there has already been a provision in this respect in the Budget for Himachal Pradesh Administration. So far as the Garhwal area is concerned, I am confident that some provision must have been made because they have included a number of items for implementation

श्री भक्त बर्षन : क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने इस बात का पता लगाने की कोशिश की है कि तिब्बत की विषम परिस्थिति के कारण कितने व्यापारियों या परिवारों पर असर पड़ा है, और उनमें से कितनों की अभी तक सहायता दी जा चुकी है और कितनों को अभी तक सहायता नहीं मिली है ?

Shri Datar: I am not in a position to give the exact figures. But anticipating all this, Government have already taken steps to make it possible for the people in these areas to have supplementary earning.

श्री पद्म देव : क्या मंत्री महोदय को यह मालूम है कि चीन के लोग तिब्बत के साथ व्यापार करने के लिए एडवांस में रुपया दे रखते हैं । तो अब चूंकि व्यापार बन्द हो गया है तो क्या गवर्नमेंट उनका रुपया वापस लेने का कोई उपाय सोच रही है ?

Shri Datar: If we receive any complaints in this respect, the question will be considered.

श्री हेमराज : लाहौल के व्यापारी आये साल तिब्बत से पशमीना लाते हैं और अब उनका पशमीने का व्यापार वहां से बन्द हो रहा है । उसके लिये गवर्नमेंट ने क्या कदम उठाये हैं ।

Shri Datar: I am not aware of this. This question does not relate to the Lahaul area.

श्री पद्म देव : क्या माननीय मंत्री को मालूम है कि पंजाब, हिमाचल और गढ़वाल के लोगों की ऊन की माग तिब्बत से ही पूरी होती थी । अब यह व्यापार बन्द हो गया है तो गवर्नमेंट उसकी पूर्ति के लिए क्या विचार कर रही है ?

Shri Datar: In the first place, the Governments of Punjab and UP would take all these circumstances into account. So far as we are concerned, we are fully aware of our obligations to these people.

Conduct of Officials Concerned with the Investments of Life Insurance Corporation

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{ Shri P. C. Borooh:
Shri S. A. Mehdi:
*2189. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:
Shri Assar:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of Union Public Service Commission about the conduct of officials concerned with the investment of the Life Insurance Corporation has been received; and

(b) if so, whether a copy of it will be laid on the Table?

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

(a) Yes. This was received on the evening of the 29th April

(b) A copy will be laid on the Table of the House after decisions in the case have been taken

Shri P. C. Boroah: May I know whether the Vivian Bose Commission's Report along with the evidence recorded by it would be laid on the Table of the House?

Shri Datar: The evidence is extremely bulky running into thousands of pages

Mr. Speaker: If the hon Minister has no objection, let him place a copy of it in the Library

Some Hon. Members: It should be done

Shri Datar: I shall strive without at present committing myself. The evidence is extremely heavy and bulky. All the same, I shall consider the question

Shri Tyagi: We can order for some cranes to lift it!

Mr. Speaker: If it is only a question of making copies, I shall have it typed in our Secretariat

Shri Datar: After a decision has been taken, this question will be considered

Shri Tyagi: Orders are orders. Orders of the Chair must be obeyed

Shri Datar: Orders of the Chair will be obeyed subject to what has been stated here

Mr. Speaker: The Chair cannot be expected to issue an order

Shri P. C. Boroah: May I know if the UPSC as a whole went into the Report of the Bose Commission or appointed a sub-committee consisting of three members, two of whom were civilians (I.C.S. officers), for that purpose?

Shri Datar: We have received the opinion of the UPSC

Shri Feroze Gandhi: May I know if the Government will consider placing the evidence recorded by the Vivian Bose Commission and the Vivian Bose Commission Report on the Table of the House before the House disperses. The UPSC's Report, which seems to be in conflict with the other report, may be placed on the Table in the beginning of the next session. As the Minister says that the evidence is much too bulky—and we would like to go through it—it is not possible for Members to go through all this evidence, the Vivian Bose Commission Report and the UPSC Report. Therefore, could they be laid on the Table in parts?

Shri Datar: I am afraid I cannot make any such promise at all. Now Government will have to go into the whole matter, including the Report of the Bose Commission and also the UPSC's advice. All this has to be considered and a final decision arrived at. Only after a final decision has been taken will all these questions arise for consideration

Shri Feroze Gandhi: When the Government place the UPSC's Report on the Table of the House, in case there is a Minute of Dissent, will that also be placed on the Table?

Mr. Speaker: That is a hypothetical question based on certain premises which may or may not have any foundation in fact.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: He can confirm or deny it

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon Member is not a lawyer

Shri Feroze Gandhi: No

Mr. Speaker: Here a singular always includes plural. If there is a Report and there are Minutes of Dissent to it, both the majority Report and the Minutes of Dissent are part of the Report

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Since the hon Minister has said that the Report has been finalised and submitted to

the Government and Government are taking a decision, may I know whether it is a fact that the UPSC has exonerated both the ICS officers and put the entire blame on the ex-Finance Minister? This has come in newspapers.

Shri Datar: The hon. Member is trying indirectly to take out something from me which he cannot do directly (*Interruptions*.)

Shri S. M. Banerjee: This was not contradicted by the hon. Minister.

Mr. Speaker: What information does the hon. Member want?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: A question was put when it was said that it was not allowed. Then this question was allowed. I want to know what was the source of information of the newspapers and why it came out in the Press.

Mr. Speaker: What is the source of information of the hon. Member?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Newspapers. Even adjournment motions are allowed or discussion on the basis of Press reports.

Mr. Speaker: How does it happen very often that newspapermen seem to be more in the know of things than even Members of Parliament?

Shri Kanga: Should we not be grateful to the newspapers?

Shri Datar: They exercise their mind very much and often-times within the realm of speculation

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I can never understand how it does not strike 500 and odd Members who are representatives, to probe into it. Are they X-raying other people's minds? How can we imagine that such and such persons have been exonerated or not? Very often, we come across such instances. The report is not placed on the Table of the House. The Minister goes on saying 'We are still considering, we are still considering'. It appears as if Members of Parliament are the last persons to be trusted. I am real-

ly sorry about this. Hereafter if any Report comes out in any newspaper and the hon. Minister says, 'I am still considering it', I will insist on his placing it on the Table of the House. Otherwise, I would suggest to hon. Ministers to see to it that when a wrong newspaper report appears, they take action then and there or contradict it. Otherwise, it is improper. There seems to be no meaning in our being here. We are the last persons to be trusted. We do not know anything until every other person in the world knows. I want to enhance the reputation of Parliament as a whole. This is the highest authority

Shri Datar: May I point out in all humility that so far as the publication of this is concerned, it has not been from any government quarter at all. After we had a question here on Friday, I had the matter inquired into. May I assure you, Sir, that it has not in any way come out from any government source? I still submit to you that all this is from anticipation, unintelligent or otherwise.

Several Hon Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Let us wait for the Report. What is it that hon. Members are going to ask now?

Shri Nagi Reddy: Are Government going to contradict the report that has appeared in the Press by saying that what has appeared in the Press is not correct?

Shri Datar: May I point out that this was not the first occasion when it appeared? On a previous occasion also, some such attempt at speculation had been made. Therefore, merely because certain things have appeared in the Press, it does not mean that they are based on fact.

Shri Nagi Reddy: Why not contradict it?

Shri Datar: May I implore hon. Members not to implicitly believe them and then to cross-examine me.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I have said enough on this. Here a leading question is put. If the Government have to answer every kind of report, imaginary or otherwise, that appears in any newspaper and they go on contradicting, or if a canard is floated and the Minister contradicts it, it comes to this that the other thing is true. It will be a leading question; it will be a fishing question. Therefore, let us stop at this.

I only requested hon. Ministers to see to it that, as far as possible, there is no such escape of news before they are communicated to this House. I am sure they will take all steps.

Shri Datar: I agree Government will take care.

Mr. Speaker: This applies not only to a government agency, but if any person is appointed as a Commissioner and so on to look into a matter, even through his clerk or through himself, it ought not to leak.

Shri Khadilkar: May I ask one question?

Mr. Speaker: No more questions. Next question.

Repairs to Taj Mahal

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*2202. Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri Prabhat Kar:

Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) what is the nature of the renovation and luxury repairs by way of inlay work and otherwise which was being done in the Taj Mahal at Agra last January; and

(b) what steps are being taken to ensure that modern accretions which spoil a monument's historicity and do not contribute to its stability are entirely avoided

The Minister of Scientific Research & Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). The Union Department of Archaeology does not permit any modern accretions within the monuments and carries out only repairs required for their proper maintenance.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: In view of the Press Report that when the Duke of Edinburgh was at Agra he inspected a demonstration of stones being cut and filed for the inlay work, may I know if the Minister will assure the House that renovations in monuments like the Taj should be undertaken only in rare cases and under very strict conditions, and whether, in this particular instance, those conditions were observed?

Shri Humayun Kabir: The inseting of these little pieces of stone is not renovation and it is not luxury work because unless the gaps are filled up, water seeps into them and undermines the structure itself. Therefore, it is no renovation.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: It may be so; but I wish an assurance from the hon. Minister that there would not be a display of modern handicrafts overlaid upon our ancient monuments, particularly in view of the fact that there have been instances of the use of pavement stones and cement which makes the renovation visually and temporally incongruous in places like Konarak and Sanchi

Shri Humayun Kabir: My hon. friend knows that some of the statements made about Konarak were simply not correct and certain things which were done 40 years ago were attributed as recent work by a gentleman who ought to have known better. And, the hon. Member who asks the question knows it fairly well because all the facts were explained to him. It has been the general policy of the department not to permit any innovation or use of modern craft.