

Apart from this, the detailed statistics of Naga-Kuki violence in Manipur during the last four years and up to 25 February this year are indicated. I can give some figures. During 1996, there were 58 incidents in Manipur. The killings between Nagas and Kukis were also 58—25 Nagas were killed and 33 Kukis. The houses burnt down were 136—106 Naga houses and 30 Kuki houses.

So, these sporadic incidents of conflict between these two tribes are continuing. They have receded a bit and come down a bit in the last year. But we are vigilant to see that the situation is not allowed to go out of control again.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry to say that the Home Minister has replied to the 'c' part of this important question in such a casual manner. You yourself have come from the North-east-area and you also know that incidents of Naga-Kuki ethnic violence are usually taking place there and at times these assume alarming proportions. In these circumstances, merely saying that both the State Governments have been directed to keep alert is neither logical nor justified.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to tell the Home Minister that it is not a law and order problem, rather it is a problem of insurgency.

There is spurt in the incidents of conflicts with the increasing hold of NSCN. I want to know from you whether the previous Government had made any efforts to keep contacts with NSCN and some of its Ministers played an active role in that direction. During your rule what progress has been made in keeping contacts with them. To what extent rapport has been established with them or to what extent efforts have been intensified to keep in touch with them. If there is no progress in this direction, then will you make such efforts?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : You know there are two factions of NSCN, one is lead by Mr. Keplong, another by Arjek Muiva. These are the two groups. We have some contacts with both the groups. Perhaps you had asked about the previous Government. They also made efforts and efforts are also being made after formation of our Government. But now it has been reported that leaders of these two groups are now showing some keenness for talks but their followers are agitated. They do not want their leaders to have parleys with the representatives of the Government. Now the difficulty is that Mr. Arjek Muiva is staying abroad. Some days ago he was staying in Bankok. Now it has been reported that from Bankok he is going to Manila. I am not sure whether is going there or not. It is not easy to contact him, it is rather difficult. But we are trying to contact him and if we succeed in contacting him and having talks with him, the House will be certainly informed about that.

[English]

**Wild Life Protection Act, 1972**

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\*145. DR. ASIM BALA :  
SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether private units are allowed to construct huge buildings for hotels etc. inside the National Parks as in the case of Nagarhole in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to order closure or withdrawal of all such constructions and projects clearances from the areas declared as the National Parks so as to enforce the provisions of the Wild Life Protection Act strictly; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Under Section 33 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State/UT is the designated authority to control, manage and maintain National Parks in that State/UT. For this purpose, he may construct/allow construction of buildings as he considers necessary/appropriate. However, in the case of the Nagarhole National Park, the Government of Karnataka had leased out the buildings and their premises inside the National Park to a private company. This matter was the subject of a Public Interest Litigation in the High Court of Karnataka, which recently ordered the private company to stop all activities immediately and handover the properties to the State Government, State Government preferred an appeal against the order. The appeal has been admitted and High Court has ordered to maintain the status quo.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

DR. ASIM BALA : Sir, under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 the Chief Wildlife Warden is the designated authority to control, manage and maintain National Parks in the Union Territories and the States. He may construct or allow construction of buildings as he considers necessary and appropriate. He has this full authority and others do not have any authority to intervene in this matter. Recently, the High Court of Karnataka ordered the private company to stop all activities immediately. The State Government contested that order saying that even the High Court cannot do anything to stop the activities.

In Assam, 1,700 zoo animals are suffering from tuberculosis. The Assam Science Forum said that these animals died due to lack of proper management and proper food.

MR. SPEAKER : Do you have any question to ask ?

DR. ASIM BALA : Yes.

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot go on giving all this information. I think the hon. Minister has all this information. Please ask the question.

DR. ASIM BALA : Due to indiscriminate use of pesticides, a large number of valuable birds like maina and other seasonal birds are not coming to the sanctuary. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Wild Life Protection Act, 1972 which is very old is going to be amended by taking into account all the perspectives.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Some building activity can take place within the parameters of the Wild Life Act, 1972 and the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : But the question is different.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I will come to that. Some structures were there in this Nagarhole Park.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : The hon. Member has asked a different question.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : It is a general question. The basic question is about Nagarhole park ... (Interruptions) I was coming to that. The question before me is about Nagarhole Park.

DR. ASIM BALA : You have given the answer about Nagarhole Park. You have to answer my Supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER : The simple question is, in the background of what the hon. Member has stated, is there any proposal to amend the Act or not.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : We are looking into this for further amendment. That will be done if there is need for that. There is a committee for that purpose. That will be looked into.

DR. ASIM BALA : Recently I have visited the zoo in Darjeeling district of West Bengal. It is a very important zoo. But due to lack of proper funds, it is not maintained properly. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether proper funds will be provided for a zoo of a State or of a Union Territory for its proper maintenance or not.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I will go into this question and provide whatever facilities the hon. Member wants to be provided. If the hon. Member writes to me, I assure him that I will get back to him.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : I welcome the decision of the High Court which has envisaged protection of the National Park at Nagarhole. But, at the same time, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is

in the perception of the Government that by destruction of this kind of forests, the wild life menace is given a fillip and the wild life menace is being enlarged and the wild animals are making more and more attacks on the agricultural producers.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : It is a very vague question. What is the particular thing that you want to know ?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : In the National Parks, the wild animals are being protected. Wild animals make attacks many times on the agricultural producers in the vicinity. I would like to know whether it is in the perception of the Government that by allowing such constructions in the protected areas, the wild animal menace will increase.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : The Wild Life Act is comprehensive enough to take notice of all developments. When this menace takes place anywhere, the provisions of the Wild Life Act are implemented and protection is given to population around there.

[Translation]

#### Krishi Vigyan Kendras

\*146. SHRI D.P. YADAV :  
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have achieved the target fixed for opening of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the target fixed for opening of Krishi Vigyan Kendras for the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

#### Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As targetted, the State-wise list of 78 approved Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) is enclosed (Annexure).

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) A comprehensive proposal for all rural districts has been submitted to the Planning Commission, which covers upgradation of existing Farmer's Training Centres and Zonal Agricultural Research Stations to take up the function of KVKs. However, the target for opening of new Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) are decided commensurating with allocation of additional funds from the Planning Commission.