

in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-879/85]

Review and Annual Report of the Rehabilitation Plantations Limited, Punalur, Annual Assessment Report for the spread and development of Hindi

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Rehabilitation Plantations Limited, Punalur, for the year 1983-84.

(ii) Annual Report of the Rehabilitation Plantations Limited, Punalur, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-880/85]

- (3) A copy of the Annual Assessment Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Programme and its implementation for accelerating the spread and development of Hindi and its progressive use for the various official purposes of the Union, for the year 1983-84.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-881/85]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Twenty-Third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Deputy Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities in India for the period from July, 1982 to June, 1983.

(ii) An Explanatory Note (Hindi and

English versions) in regard to the Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-882/85]

12.10 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

[English]

Reported supply of maps of sensitive and restricted areas in Kerala and Indo-Burma border by some non-official agencies to some foreign agencies without obtaining prior clearance

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :

“Reported supply of maps of sensitive and restricted areas in Kerala and Indo-Burma border by some non-official agencies to some foreign agencies without obtaining prior clearance from concerned authorities, thereby violating the Official Secrets Act and Map Restriction Policy and the action taken by the Government in the matter.”

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN) : Sir, I rise to speak on the subject of reported supply of maps of sensitive and restricted areas by some non-official agencies to some foreign agencies without obtaining prior clearance from the concerned authorities.

2. Sir, according to the information gathered from the Kudal Commission of Inquiry, which is inquiring into the working and activities including publications of the Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development (AVARD), certain allegations had been made that some time in early 1975, AVARD arranged to obtain copies of restricted maps of areas in Nagaland and supplied such copies to a foreign agency as a part of a plan, namely, “the Development Plan of Selected Areas

of Nagaland". The purpose of this plan was to obtain funds to be utilised by particular agencies, namely, Nagaland Peace Centre, Kohima and Nagaland Gandhi Ashram. During the course of the investigations it also came to the notice of the Commission that some maps of restricted areas of Vellanad Panchayat, Kerala, have been published in a book entitled "Education for Development" published by AVARD. In order to determine the nature and importance of the maps published in these publications, the Commission obtained the comments and advice of the Survey of India and Ministry of Defence in the matter. The Survey of India has opined that some of these maps pertain to the restricted areas and as such needed clearance both from the Office of the Surveyor General of India as well as the Ministry of Defence. It is also mentioned that some of the maps published in these publications wrongly depict borders of India. The Ministry of Defence have also informed the Commission that some of these maps were of restricted areas and their publication and open circulation was not permissible without prior approval of the Ministry of Defence.

3. On the completion of the preliminary investigations, the Commission having satisfied itself about the existence of the *prima facie* case of violation of the Official Secrets Act and the Map Restriction Policy has issued a notice under section 8(b) of the Commissions of Inquiry Act 1952 to afford opportunity to the AVARD, Nagaland Peace Centre, Nagaland Gandhi Ashram and Mitra Niketan to show cause and produce evidence, if any, in their defence. The show cause notice issued by the Commission requires persons representing these organisations to appear before the Commission on 13th May, 1985.

4. Thus, as would be clear from the facts mentioned above, the allegations against the AVARD and its closely connected organisations regarding the publication of maps of restricted areas without proper authorisation are already being inquired into by the Kudal Commission of Inquiry.

5. I take this opportunity to assure this august House that Government is maintaining utmost vigilance to safeguard the

country's security and integrity. Any individual or organisation which is found engage in activities prejudicial to national security will be dealt with sternly in accordance with the provisions of the law.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : This is a serious matter but from the statement which he has read out just now there is a likelihood of an impression being created that the preparation of these restricted maps and the supply of them to some foreign agencies is something which is of a very recent occurrence, just taking place now and has suddenly come to light.

From the information which I have at my disposal, it is not so at all. This is something which has been going on for several years and I would like to know point blank from the Government whether this is the first time that this has come to the notice of the Government of the basis of some information which they have now gathered from the Kudal Commission and whether it is a fact that it has been going for the last seven or eight years.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
Kudal Commission !

MR. SPEAKER : It is in 1975, Sir.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : It came to the knowledge of the Government.

[Translation]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He is now bringing in the Kudal Commission.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I am not interested in Kudal Commission; they can do what they like with it.

I would like to know or pinpoint, what is the attitude and action taken by the Government in this matter because it has been known to the government for many years. For example, from 1958-59 to 1966-67 this organisation known as the AVARD was openly getting funds from the Asia Foundation which later on was disclosed to be a conduit, an agency of the CIA. Later on, in 1968 the Government

asked the Asia Foundation to wind up its establishment in India. And as far as we know that after 1968, direct donations from the Asia Foundation to this AVARD organisation probably ceased. But AVARD is an organisation which has got affiliated to it a large number of other organisations. I am told that their number runs into over nine hundred which are operating in various parts of the country in the name of the various rural development schemes. For example, I would like to know whether the Home Minister can confirm or not that in 1974, that is, after the Government had asked the Asia Foundation to wind up its establishment here in India, in 1974 these number agencies—rather the affiliated agencies—of AVARD such as the Nagaland Peace Centre, Kohima, the Nagaland Gandhi Ashram, Chuchuyimlang, Nagaland and all such organisations in that year 1974 received respectively Rs. 22,34,000 and Rs. 19,55,000 from this organisation in West Germany which is called EZE. The full name I have got with me, but it is very difficult to pronounce, because it is all German. The names of the members of this organisation are known and these maps are being printed here. These maps are prepared, they are published—they must be published by some printing presses, and the Government ought to be able to tell us which are the printing presses where these maps are being printed and published and these maps are being sent to West Germany, to that organisation called EZE.

This has nothing to do with the findings of the Kudal Commission. I want to know, what the great Home Ministry with all its intelligence agencies has been doing all these years because the Ministry of Defence and the Survey of India have not only made submissions before the Commission, which he has referred to just now saying that these maps have been prepared without the necessary permission of these Ministries and the Survey of India. It is an offence—criminal offence—which is punishable. Not only that; these maps have revealed vital information such as for example the state of communications in those areas, the location of telephone exchanges, the national and state highways, other topographical landmarks and other details. What is the purpose of this? It is not a very sinister

thing? Why these types of maps containing all this strategic important information are being prepared, published and sent out for the last several years to these foreign agencies? And the Government is doing nothing about it. I really cannot understand it. The Kudal Commission was set up only in 1982. But what I am referring to has been going on at least 15 years before that. Surely I take it that the Home Ministry and the Defence Ministry and all these intelligence agencies are aware of what is going on. How is it that no action is taken against these people who are responsible? I am told that after the Kudal Commission has started functioning, these people to whom notices are given for appearance and all that, they have frequently been going to courts and getting stay orders, injunctions and all that and refusing to appear before the Commission at all. I do not know what is going to happen. He has mentioned that some fresh notice has been given by the Commission asking them to appear a few days hence of this month. They will not appear. They will go to court and get some stay order or something and on a technical objection they will avoid any real investigation of these allegations against them. After all these so-called spy trials and espionage plot which you discovered and told us about at the beginning of this session and last session and about which nothing is heard now, one does not know how much credibility to give to the work of our intelligence agencies. Here is a thing which is going on more or less openly and which is known to the Government. It is not something which is secretly being done. Why these border areas are being selected—Nagaland, north-eastern border, even one place situated on the Kerala border and West Bengal border? These organisations which are supposed to be some kind of either charitable organisations or organisations of religious missionaries or something, this is not their job to prepare some maps and send them out in return of some money received from abroad. I have nothing against missionaries doing their legitimate work in this country. But this is not their legitimate work or legitimate activity. I want to know from the Government as to what they have been doing all these years. They know all these things. At least 20 such maps have been referred to

before the Kudal Commission, which have been published and sent abroad. Government has not investigated anything on its own through its intelligence agencies to find out who is doing this, why they are doing it, who are the people concerned. Are there some people involved against whom the Government is afraid of taking action? I do not know whether there are some important and big people involved or not against whom the Government does not want to move at the cost of the security of the country. Please tell us something more about this, throw some light about this instead of simply telling that the Kudal Commission has found it out after 1982. They will proceed as a Commission of Inquiry and they will go on for years and years. There are so many ways by which these things can be prolonged and the actual investigation can be avoided. But in the meantime, all this vital strategic information is being leaked out and the Government is doing nothing about it apparently. No measures of any kind have been taken. So, I am accusing the Government of playing ducks and drakes with the security of the country. Here is a concrete evidence of that. I would like to know what they are proposing to do.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Kudal Commission is harassing only the innocent.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : It is correct that the activities of the AVARD and its affiliates have been there since 1958. They have been getting huge contributions from foreign agencies. About the publication of maps of restricted areas, these books were brought to the notice of the Kudal Commission in 1984.

12.20 hrs.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker *in the Chair*]

Previous to that it was only a general kind of allegation which was being made against the AVARD and the affiliated agencies. But now substantial proof has been produced by some of the agencies...

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Who brought it to the notice of the Kudal Commission?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : That will be very difficult to say. I do not think it will be possible for me to give the source from where they got it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Was it any Government investigative agency or some private person?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : At least the information that I have with me only shows that a reference was made by Kudal Commission and thereafter the Surveyor General of India and the Defence Ministry seem to have reacted to some of the information which was cross-checked with them, in which the Defence Ministry did say that those were restricted areas and nobody was supposed to print and enlarge or circulate in the way it had been done in the case of the book which has been printed by AVARD. It is a fact that a large number of stay orders have been brought against the working of the Kudal Commission. But we are now seized of the matter. We are going to discuss again with the Kudal Commission irrespective of the interim report which they might submit later on. Government having come to know of this, have to consult the IB, the CBI and other agencies and will take definite action if it is called for.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : My questions have not been answered. From what the Minister has said now, it seems that it is really an admission that they have done nothing so far. They now propose to take action. He himself says that in 1958 these contributions from the Asia Foundation to AVARD were known and they were stopped by the Government. The Asia Foundation was exposed and the CIA conduit do it and its office here was closed down. After that time to this date, am I to know that the Government and its agencies never bothered to investigate further or to find out what these people were doing or what they were using this money for? They have not done it. Let him admit that they have been lax in this matter completely though the country's security was involved. Only now that the matter has come up, the Kudal Commission has given some information and this matter has come in Parliament, they say that they

have to ask the IB and somebody and somebody else to do something. What kind of attitude it is? It shows the lack of seriousness completely.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : From 1958 to 1976, I think the information that I have at my disposal, clearly shows that it was only a very general kind of allegation which was made against AVARD and their activities, but nothing serious had come to Government's notice. No investigation was done. At least that is the information that I have. Now, since these matters about two definite allegations which are prima facie established in the Kudal Commission, have come to Government's notice, certainly action hereafter will be taken.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the case that has come to light before us today is very sensational. There are many foreign powers which have been sending money to the cultural and social organisations in the country with the intention of creating chaotic conditions in the country. They have selected such institutions as had been named after Gandhiji like 'Gandhi Peace Foundation' 'Gandhi Memorial Fund' and 'Sarva Seva Sangh'. These institutions were asked to spread lawlessness in the border States. Their function was to get secret maps of those areas where the Defence Ministry had imposed certain restriction. They did these jobs, prepared the maps and tried to sell them in foreign countries so that the foreign powers interested in spreading lawlessness in the country and its disintegration could become stronger and supply more money to these organisations to get their work done and harm the country. All this started way back in 1962 through an organisation called the Asia Foundation but it was only in 1968 that Government came to know of its links with CIA, which was trying to instigate subversive activities and the spreading of lawlessness in the country, and a ban was then imposed on that organisation. In spite of the ban the money inflow from the foreign countries did not stop. You would recall that after 1971 when Shrimati Indira Gandhi won the elections with a huge majority, it was

through these organisations that lawlessness and strikes were tried in Bihar and Gujarat right from 1971 to 1975, and the people who were supporting those strikes were directly associated with these organisations. Efforts were made to see that the elected representatives were not allowed to enter the assemblies and they indulged in sabotage. There was a students' revolution at that time and it was these people who helped them. The centre of all these activities has always been the 'Gandhi Peace Foundation' and one of its office-bearers** has been either the President or General Secretary or treasurer or member of the Executive Committee of over 100 organisations out of about 900 such organisations. He had misused the funds against the Government, i.e., Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Government. During the elections they issued pamphlets and posters pleading that people should not support or co-operate with Government. I would like to quote from one of the speeches of Shrimati Indira Gandhi which she had delivered some time prior to her death.

[*English*]

"The allegations against the Gandhian bodies were that money received from the foreign..."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Jai Prakash Agarwal, you put any question if you want to. You need not necessarily read anything from that. You have not taken permission.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : There is no harm.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, he has not taken permission to read from that.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur) : It is not an allegation.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Not allegation, but he is mentioning the names.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : I am referring to what was published in the Indian Express.

**Not recorded.

"The allegations against the Gandhian bodies were that money received from foreign and internal sources for digging wells and for the drought-hit States like Orissa were misutilised. The Opposition parties must be patient and should understand the nature of the inquiry by the Kudal Commission and not place hurdles against it."

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : I am on a point of order. In Calling Attention there can be a point of order.

Firstly I do not object to his raising the issue. But I only want to tell you that sometimes very important persons holding office in this country have some amount in the foreign banks. About them also references were made and it had appeared in Press. And when that was quoted, the Speaker had pointed out that even if it has appeared in the Press, the Press will take responsibility outside, but you should not raise it if there are certain allegations, about which you have not given a proper notice and if you have not authenticated that, you would not be allowed to raise it. I am the last man to be worried about such allegations. About Jayaprakash Narain also allegations have been made in this House, but I want to tell you that this is the precedence.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : But how does that precedent come in this way ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : They are exactly identical. There are references to institutions and individuals.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : He is quoting former Prime Minister in relation to her speech. There is nothing wrong about it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He is not attentive.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I am attentive. He said that Mr. Radhakrishnan is President, Vice-President, triumvir of hundreds of organisations including the Gandhi Peace Foundation. What is wrong about. It is a statement of fact.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : In that statement all the references are there. In the past it was prevented.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Professor, if there is any name mentioned, it would not go in the record.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I should respectfully submit that we should realise the seriousness of this. This organisation is continuously supplying maps outside. The persons who are associated must be exposed in this House. What is wrong about it ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If any name he has to mention he must get prior permission. Otherwise it would not go on record.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have made my position clear. Even if anyone is exposed...

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : If Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad wants to say that I am shielding anyone, let me make it clear.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I have not said that.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What I am telling you is what the previous procedure has been. Even if anybody is to be exposed in this House, we have to give in writing and if a document is to be quoted that also has to be supplied. Then it can be done. If that is done, I have no objection. I will also join you.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : What objectionable thing has he quoted. He is within his right to quote the reference.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What I am objecting to is reference to name in that.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Names cannot be allowed.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : It is a statement of facts that are known, there is nothing wrong about it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I expect the Deputy-Speaker to give the Ruling.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Sir, Mr. Madhu Dandavate in all his wisdom wants to dictate to the House. He says that whenever any Member in this House wants to make allegations or wants to read something about the Members present here, he must get the previous permission, but not about the people outside.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That cannot be allowed.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : What cannot be allowed ? You tell me.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Any allegations made, I won't allow.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : ** It is all according to the rules of the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There are rules. If there are any defamatory remarks...

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : We are in Parliament. We are guided by the rules of Parliament. I say, if we do otherwise, it means we are against the interests of the country. Now, he is not doing anything wrong.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Azad, any name mentioned whether it is of inside or outside, without the permission if any allegation is made against him, I won't allow.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I will tell you, before your coming in the Chair, thousands of names have been mentioned in the House, and we will read those names again and again. You can't make just a sweeping remark like that.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If you want, I can read out the rule. There is a

rule which clearly says, any defamatory allegation cannot be made.

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : What is defamatory ? This is not defamatory.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That I will go through.

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : What will you go through ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI K.H. RANGANATH : I was in the Karnataka Assembly for two long years. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, a man who quotes takes the responsibility for it. How is it defamatory ? It is for you to decide.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He should give prior notice.

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : How is it defamatory ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, I wish to make it clear because I do not want to hurt others.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : It is not defamatory. It is a statement of facts.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I do not want my colleague to misunderstand me.

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : We are not misunderstanding you.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I am not objecting to any names to be mentioned. I have also not said that he has made an allegation.

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, on a point of order say that** is the President of a hundred organisations, he is the President or Secretary or

**Not recorded.

**Not recorded.

Treasurer, is it defamatory? It is a statement of facts. The sweeping remark that you have made is surprising.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Mr. Azad, I want to say this...

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : Why are you saying this to me?

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, I am supporting what he said. *(Interruptions)* I again hold, I am not objecting, I am one with Mr. Azad that names can be mentioned, institutions can be mentioned, but I am only pointing out...

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : It is just in the national interest and you are making this remark.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I am only pointing out that names and institutions also can be referred. I am not raising that point. I say that if any allegations have to be made about individuals, only they must take in writing permission and take the responsibility.

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : I also fully agree with you. But I am only referring to the Deputy-Speakers's remark to say that in this AVARD case if Mr. A is connected with hundred institutions, what is defamatory? I agree with you, that is right. But he is disagreeing now. Unfortunately your point of order has made the Deputy-Speaker disagree. You and I know the rules, we are perfectly right. But Mr. Deputy-Speaker is...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No. Don't say that.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record. His observation will not go on record.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : Sir, I am on a

****Not recorded.**

point of order and it relates to the order and running of the business of this House. We know the rules, we know what the words 'defamatory' and 'incriminatory' mean.

But I am afraid that we are taking these things too far.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Why are you coming in? He has given a ruling on that. We are not taking about you.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Swell is on his legs. Let him continue. Others need not argue.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : Allow me to finish my speech.

I seek your guidance whether this House can be treated as a college or a debating society in which one has to say certain things theoretically or certain things academically or is this House to discuss the affairs of the country. Can you divorce the affairs of this country from the individuals involved in it so that we cannot mention any name? So, please give me ruling on that.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Thousands of names are being mentioned every day.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will go through the record and I will consider it. If it is not defamatory, I will not expunge it.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : I have raised the point of order. I want your ruling.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will go through the record. If there is any defamatory remark against any person, I will expunge it from the record.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : How is it defamatory, I want to know.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That I will go through the proceedings.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : Going through the record is one thing and giving your ruling on the point of order is another. If you cannot do it now, take your time and come back to the House. I have raised my point of order.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Sir, I was reading out a part of the speech of Shrimati Indira Gandhi :

“The allegations against the Gandhian bodies were that money received from foreign and internal sources for digging wells in drought hit States including Orissa was misutilised.

“The Opposition Parties must be patient and understand the nature of enquiry of Kudal Commission and create hurdles in the course of probe, not she said.”

[*Translation*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, these are many such bodies and institutions which have received money from abroad to the tune of lakhs of rupees. The ‘Banvasi Seva Kendra’, Abhora recived Rs. 42 lakhs, ‘Citizens Voluntary Traaining Centre’ Kohima Rs. 76 lakhs, Mahatma Gandhi Seva Ashram’, Zora Rs. 33 lakhs, ‘Tagore Society for Rural Development’ West Bengal Rs. 89 laks, ‘Shyama Prasad Institute of Culture,’ West Bengal Rs. 16 laks, ‘T.A. Gramdan Sangh’ Assam Rs. 31 lakhs ‘Mandara Unayan’ West Bengal Rs. 38 lakhs ‘Nirpad’ U.P. Rs. 200 lakhs and ‘AVARD’ New Delhi Rs. 306 lakhs.

Mr. Deputy Speakers, Sir, a person who indulges in spreading anarchy, sabotage and harms the interests of the country is called a trator. Who are these traitors? In first category are those people who indulge in spch activities and the others are those who support them. I would like to tell you that what happened between 1971 and 1975 and the enquiry that was instituted later on, the reasons why the enquiry was stopped in the years between 1977-79 and the papers that were confiscated from these Organisations were returned back to them. Does it not indicate that the then Government were also involved in it ?

I would like to remind you that a few

years back it appeared in the newspapers that** had links with the CIA.**

The then Government stopped the enquiry. Is it not a proof of the fact that both these things were the same and these people had given protection and they were involved and wanted that activities of sabotage should take place in the country.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Agarwal, mentioned about CIA connection.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : It was in the newspaper. It is an open fact.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That I cannot allow. I would not allow. This is not the way.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : All leaders including the Congress leaders have said that we protest against the allegation made against** Let it be very clear.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : He did not say,** is a CIA agent. Please understand. He did not say that** was a CIA agent. Hs said, it was published in those days. Somebody said so and it had been published and had been on the record of the House. We never call** a CIA agent.

He was the Prime Minister. He was a good public man. We only say ‘Some of the persons published in newspapers’. That is all. It is a reference which is being made. It is being said that this Kudal Commission, when the Government came in power certain things happened and all that happened was that the papers of the AVARD were referred back and sent back to the Commission. Why? Anybody may like to ask and to know. He did not say that, we never say that, and none of us say that he is a CIA agent. But when it was published in the newspapers, it is a fact of the time. We are only quoting it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No. That is to say...

**Not recorded.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : **

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Even for making an allegation, a news item cannot be mentioned.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : **
You must go by the rules in the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Do not teach me. It is too much you are speaking.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : You have to hear if. You cannot do otherwise. You are** bound by the rules.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : If some newspaper says that...

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : During Zero Hour, Prof. Madhu Dandavate quotes from the newspaper, not from his personal knowledge. Every day we see him.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I never quote anything from the...

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : When you shout in the Zero Hour, you say press news has come, not your own news.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : That is different. I am saying about foreign agency. If it is said that a Chief Minister is reported to have made some statement, that is totally different. But if somebody said that I have read the report that** is a CIA Agent or some other agent...

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I know that in Janata Government time, the records of the AVARD were returned to them. But, if the Government does it, what can you do ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You need not cast aspersions on me. I did not do it.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Not at all.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : All that I want to tell you is even if you read a report in the press that "so and so Prime Minister or the present Prime Minister is KGB agent or some other agent it is not my contention, but press has said that such and such Minister or Home Minister is an agent KGB", can I run away with that ? That is all I am saying.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I am happy you come down every time.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Right from the beginning, I said that. You go through that.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It is there. I remember I have said it. I have said, I am not objecting to it. I have gone on record. I am not objecting.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : How can you object to it ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I only said that if in the further statement, he makes any allegation, then only I will object to it. I am on record. I have said that so far I have not objected. I am on record.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : There is no problem between you and me. How can we say we have another problem ?

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGRAWAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the institutions which were receiving funds and whose main function was to propagate a Mahatma Gandhi's achievements, it is surprising how such books were kept in the Library by them. It proved that Gandhiji was an ordinary man and Nathuram Godse a great man. This book shows that the killing of Gandhiji by Nathuram Godse was a justified action. I would like to read out the remarks of Justice S. Mohan of the High Court who has said :

[English]

"If really that library has been established to propagate Mahatma

Gandhi's ideals, it passes my comprehension how the library could bring Gopal Godse's book which by no uncertain terms vilifies the Father of the Nation in every possible way. The reader will have a poor opinion about Mahatma Gandhi who had sacrificed his life for the uplift of the down-trodden, worked incessantly for the unity of the country."

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know why when these people and institutions were found to be indulging in such activities, they were not arrested and their passports seized? Why was criminal action not initiated against them? If we let such people move freely to indulge in subversive activities in the country, then I fear, we would not be able to protect the freedom of our country, the freedom won by those who had sacrificed their lives to make this country free, those who had faced bullets and lathis and had gone to jails, those who had embraced the hangman's noose and the soldiers who had laid down their lives to protect this freedom; we will not be able to protect such hard-earned freedom if some political parties continue to patronise such elements... (*Interruption*).

I would like to ask two questions.

[*English*]

These are my questions. Is it a fact that maps and other documents seized from AVARD and its closely connected organisations were returned to the organisations by the then Government in power during 1977-78 and, if why were the culprits who acted treacherously against the security of the State not brought to book?

Secondly, why has the Government not taken any steps to conduct a search and seizure of documents and why have the passports of the office-bearers of these organisations who are involved in such anti-national offence not been seized? And why is the Government not launching criminal proceedings against them?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: About the information which the hon. Member has

given to the House, these are really very serious made against AVARD. But it will be difficult for me to react immediately whether these papers were returned during 1977-78 because the issue which has been brought to our notice is in the shape of Calling Attention Notice and that too, only about publication of certain maps which were for a restricted area and their being circulated outside the country; that is the subject-matter of this Calling Attention Notice. As far as may information goes, these are the very allegations which are the subject-matter of inquiry with the Kudal Commission, and unless they come to a definite conclusion, it will be very difficult for the Government to proceed against any one. But there are some aspects of this inquiry; if Government *suo motu* also would like to take up certain inquiries against some individuals if they are found *prima facie* responsible for violating the provisions of the Official Secrets Act and also the restricted policy about maps which the Defence Ministry has been following, certainly we would like to consult all concerned and initiate action if it is called for.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): How is it that Government has not acted at all? It looks as if somebody is sleeping all the time.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghaziपुर): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the hon. Minister has said in his statement as also in his answers to the many questions that any person or organisation found indulging in harmful activities against the security of country would be dealt with firmly under the provisions of law. In that very statement the hon. Minister has said that the Commission had asked for an expert opinion of the Survey of India and the Defence Ministry on the importance and nature of the maps published in these publications. The Survey of India has expressed the view that some of the maps were of restricted areas, for which prior approval from the office of the Surveyor General of India and the Defence Ministry was necessary. I would like to know whether this does not violate Sections 3 and 5 of the Official Secrets Act and if so, why action was not taken *suo motu*?

The commission's report was verified from the Defence Ministry and the Survey of India. They were of the definite view that the maps were of the restricted areas and there was need for prior permission before drawing the maps, but this requirement was not complied with why did Government not initiate action *suo motu* and what are the reasons for delay ?

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, this matter did not come to light as a result of issuing of the Notice by the Kudal Commission only. As the preceding speaker hon. Shri Indrajit Gupta has said this case has been going on for many years. It was raised during the Fifth Lok Sabha also. Shri Shashi Bhushan had raised this matter at that time. The matter had been enquired into and later it was handed over to the CBI. Some maps were also seized during the raids. Will the hon. Minister confirm whether my information is correct or not ? This matter was again raised before the Shah Commission in 1977. The Commission Summoned Shri Shashi Bhushan to depose. But the most unfortunate part of it was that instead of initiating action in the larger interests of the security of the country, the Janata Party Government stopped further action on the matter that was raised during the Fifth Lok Sabha and on which action was being taken by way of instituting an enquiry and even maps were seized. They not only stopped further enquiry but even returned back the maps to those institutions. The maps which were prepared were returned by them. Thus a serious lapse was committed in the matter of the security of the country. I have already submitted that things were being enquired into and Government had taken some action in this regard and had seized some maps also. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that later on the Janata Party Government returned those maps ? Subsequently the Commission was appointed which is enquiring into the matter but we have nothing to do with that. I do not want to say anything about the enquiry which is going on. The enquiry is not confined to the maps only; there are many matters which are going to be enquired into. Many people in the country have an apprehension that the AVARD and the Gandhi Peace Foundation

and the institutions connected with it are the agents of CIA. They work as agents of foreign countries which are hostile to India. They do not work directly but through certain international institutions. In this connection, the Asia Foundation and another West German institution has been mentioned. They get money through them. They purchase their publications. The people of our country have been apprehensive in this regard for quite a long time. Funds have been misutilised, big people are involved and an enquiry is going on to look into several aspects of the case. I do not want to say anything in this regard. I would like to say only this much that it is a matter of our country's security. The maps have been prepared of border areas, coastal areas which are restricted areas and where photography or survey is strictly prohibited and these maps have been sent outside the country. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I fail to understand one thing why the AVARD and other institutions selected only border areas and coastal areas for rural development ? They did not select the backward rural areas of U.P., Madhya Pradesh or Rajasthan. These are many backward rural areas in the country which they could have selected but they selected the coastal areas contiguous to Burma and China. Why had they selected only such areas ? That creates a doubt in our mind that something is wrong at the bottom. Shri Agarwal was right in saying that there are many people who have a doubt that the chaotic atmosphere created in 1974-75 in the country which gave birth to unfortunate conditions was the handiwork of these institutions. At that time, volunteers of the Gandhi Peace Foundation used to spread an atmosphere of chaos and hatred against Government in Gujarat and Bihar. All these activities were being carried on in a well planned manner. After that in 1977 the enquiry against them was dropped and those maps were returned to them. It seems that all this was a reward for their activities in the past. I would go to the extent of saying that in bringing the Janata Party to power, these institutions played the biggest role. I am not saying anything about Shri Jai Prakash Narainji. I also do not doubt his intention. But certain activities were going on behind the curtain. There cannot be two opinions that

these institutions were encasing the name of Shri Jai Prakash Narain. They were also encasing Mahatma Gandhi's name through the Gandhi Peace Foundation. In their museum library they have still Godse's book. Prof. Madhu Dandavate, Nathuram Godse's book has still been kept in their library. If you appreciate it, then I have nothing to say.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I would like to know one thing—we have one hundred per cent difference with Hitler's Fascism but his book is lying in Parliament Library. Does that mean that we support him ?

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Hitler did not shoot Gandhi. We were against the Britishers but they were not so barbaric as to shoot Gandhi. Nathu Ram Godse did shoot Gandhi. The ideology, the principle behind it fired the shot and in spite of all this, that book has been kept there—if you appreciate it, then I have nothing to say. These have been the activities of these institutions and you should be thankful to them that because of them your Party came to power and you became a Minister.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have been elected five times as Member of Lok Sabha. I have not come here because of someone's pity but by serving the people.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : By the grace of God, you may be elected even ten times. We have no objection to that but at that time you came to power because of these people. Otherwise you would never have come to power. Once you could form the Government but in future, you are never going to get such a chance.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : That was because of you and the emergency. Otherwise we would not have come to power in our whole life. At that time we came to power because of you.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : If such things are happening as have been mentioned by the hon. Minister today in

the statement they may again come to power. They have again started doing the same thing. What is happening in Gujarat should be enquired into. The same institutions are behind the activities of Shvi Sena in Maharashtra. These institutions have put in their resources and volunteers and these people want to create the same situation. They want to bring back again the atmosphere of 1974-75. You will have to pay attention to that and if you do not do that, Prof. Madhu Dandavate may occupy the seat you are occupying today. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, their activities are very dangerous. The Kudal Commission is enquiring into these activities. If you want for action till the Commission's report is submitted, you will never be able to take action. I do not insist upon action on other things but what prevents the Government from taking action against those activities which relate to the preparation of maps of the prohibited areas ? I want that the hon. Minister should take strict action in this matter. I do not want that the hon. Minister should say that we are just now going to take action but this much I want that he should say that he was going to take action, but I certainly want that strict action much be taken in this regard, keeping in view the interest of the nation and the security of the country.

With these words I conclude and hope that the hon. Minister will reply to the points which I have raised during my speech.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is truth in the assertions made by the hon. Member that certain elements in the country are working to create conditions of destabilisation here. There is no such information available with me at the moment, whether there is any link or not between all these incidents which have occurred but it creates a doubt in the mind that some people at different places seem to be interested in bringing about destabilisation in this country and they are doing their work in their own ways to start these incidents.

It is also true that the enquiry which was going on was dropped by them in 1977 but as to whether the maps which had been seized from them have been returned.

or not, I have no authentic information and I shall give special attention towards this aspect. If it is true that the whole material which had come into Government's possession was returned after the closure of the enquiry, then we have to check the matter deeply and find out the persons who are involved in this work and also see what action could be taken against them but regarding instituting cases, it will not be proper to start criminal proceedings unless some incriminating proof is found out. In the beginning I had said that we are looking into the activities of two or three agencies and if we feel that there is a *prima facie* case, we shall do the needful. The Kudal Commission has observed that there seems to be a violation of the Official Secrets Act, we shall have to give them a chance to the person concerned to say what they want to say. They have been served with 'show cause' notices. We will go through their reply and if Government feels that there is a *prima facie* case and a stage has come to take action against them, I assure the House that we shall take action without any laxity in the matter.

[English]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore): As our Home Minister has stated, the Government also thinks that these various agencies are working in our country in ways which are endangering our whole security. As Basher saheb just now told us, Government has taken a long, long time. It is a case starting from 1975 onwards and now we are in 1985. Shri Basher saheb has a correct grievance. The Janata Party regime did not proceed with the case; they withdrew the case. Our Home Minister does not even know whether the materials (which Government seized for starting the case) were returned to the authorities against whom the cases started but later on they were dropped. Our country is under pressure, no doubt. We have been surrounded. Only yesterday, there was a discussion in the Rajya Sabha that some of our own scientists—they were not scientists in the Janata Government period, but they are the scientists of this Government—in the Defence Department who were working on the radar system, have slipped away and they have left for USA and all our defence materials and

defence maps and other data which we have developed, whatever we have developed and achieved in this field have all been given to the USA. When Mr. Venkataraman was the then Defence Minister, he said on the floor of this House that he would try his best to bring back those scientists. But he had failed. So, what is worrying me is that actually most of the foreign agencies are very much interested in our affairs. This fact has been brought to your notice and the notice of the earlier Government also. I do not hold any brief for the Janata Government's failure and their activities. But the fact remains that they had not withdrawn the cases. They should have proceeded with the cases. The Kudal Commission had been set up in 1982 and now it is 1985 and this Government came into being in 1980, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Government came into being in 1980 and that Government took two years to set up this Commission and since the Commission was set already three years have passed. So, I would like to know from the Government whether an enquiry would be done very quickly so that immediate action can be taken against them. The Kudal Commission has submitted its report. I would like to know what action the Government has taken on that report. He has not agreed to start *suo motu* cases against them. He has not agreed. I do not know why there is such a delay in such important matters. So far as defence is concerned, everyone has expressed concern. I do not know whether they are concerned or not, but everyone has expressed concern for the country's defence. I submit that very influential, important and resourceful persons must be behind the scene so that they have been able to keep away themselves from the Government's pressure.

Sir, the Government takes drastic action when the question of working class movements comes. The Government takes action when the peasants' movements to get their demands accepted are there. Now, Sir, I would like to know the publishers and the place where the books were printed. I do not want to know the names of the authors. I would only like to know where these materials were printed and whether the Government has any information on

that. What were the number of maps printed and where are those maps now?

AN HON. MEMBER : They are outside.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Yes, they are outside. Now such being the case, I would like to know whether the Government can immediately start cases against the press and such persons who are very influential. I am sure they are not so important when the question of country's security comes.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : One book was printed in India by Bhupinder Sagar Printers and Publishers, Kotla Mubharakpur, New Delhi. Another book which is on rural development plan in selected blocks in Nagaland is printed by Bhupinder Sagar at Sagar Printers and Publishers, 1880, Udai Chand Marg, Kotla Mubharakpur, New Delhi. So, both of them are printed in New Delhi. These are the printers who have published and this came to the notice of the Kudal Commission only in 1984. After it was brought to their notice, they referred it to the Surveyor General of India and the Ministry of Defence and the reply was received in December 1984, January 1985. After the reply was sent to them, the Kudal Commission referred the matter to IB in February 85 and now it is with Government; IB, CBI and other agencies are going to be consulted in the matter. If we come to the conclusion after getting the report and the explanation to show cause notice under Section 8B of the Enquiries Act issued by Kudal Commission, that there is a *prima facie* case to proceed against some of the parties concerned, certainly I can assure you that howsoever influential person may be involved, "Government will definitely take very stringent action if it is established under the law.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : I apologise, I was not here when I was called, because I had an appointment with the Prime Minister.

Since many of the questions have already been posed, I would not cover the same ground; I would go to the other points.

Firstly, I would like to know whether the Minister is aware that a number of these people were trying their best not to cooperate with the Kudal Commission. Apart from other things, there was a big debate inside the Indian section of Amnesty International. The Indian section of Amnesty International has now been captured by the AVARD people virtually throwing out the other section from the office bearership, who were not of the same opinion on this question. Is the Minister aware of it? I would also like to know whether it is a fact that the Amnesty International which seems to have close connection also with CIA published unauthorised maps of India in their annual report in 1983 where the Customs had put a stamp indicating that the external boundaries of India as depicted in the map are neither correct nor authentic. Despite that the Amnesty International report of 1984 has the same map again. In this map part of the Indian territory from Kashmir has been gifted to Pakistan and China. Is it not a violation of the established law of the land? Secondly, I would like to know whether the Government are aware that the international connections are not only with the German organisation, which has been referred to, but it has much deeper international connections, and this map has not only all those things referred to in your reply, but various other things. Has the Kudal Commission gone into it? If not, is the Government going into it *suo motu*? Further, are the Government aware that in the name of some Sikh students organisation of UK, there has been an appeal to Amnesty International asking them to help Satwant Singh, who is the alleged killer of our late Prime Minister, so that he can be protected. They also want protection for the person who killed the Nirankari Baba. They are seeking help from this Amnesty International and they want to know whether these people could be protected. Now, these are not, in my opinion, isolated things. The AVARD people have captured the Amnesty International's Indian Section. I would like to know whether Government is aware of this dimension of the problem as well and if so, what steps are being taken by the Government to prevent this kind of CIA-covered organisations doing kinds of things with our maps. What are

Government doing to connect the like and take stern action on this question ?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : It will be very difficult for me to immediately react to what the hon. member has said just now regarding one of the maps of India, not authenticated, but still published by some organisation of Amnesty International. Certainly, I will have to look into it. I cannot immediately say as to what action is taken or what inquiries have been conducted in the matter or at what stage the case is.

Regarding the second aspect, it is a fact that some of the people to whom notices were sent by the Kudal Commission to explain their position by appearing before the Commission have not been cooperating. Or the other hand, it has come to Government's notice that in a large number of cases, writ petitions have been filed by some interested parties either in the High Court or in the Supreme Court and in some cases, they have also succeeded in getting in stay order. That is why orders are being delayed and in a large number of cases, we cannot proceed further, merely because there is a stay order either by the Supreme Court or by the High Court. I am not sure as to whether it is the High Court or the Supreme Court, but the court order is there which had stayed the proceedings. That is why it had taken considerable time for the Kudal Commission also. These are the procedures which I do not think we can circumvent and find some kind of a short cut to file cases against people. But, after the whole thing is completed and as I have said earlier, if we find that there is enough evidence available to charge-sheet people who are indulging in this kind of anti-national activities, we will certainly take action.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : What you have stated here makes it probably clear to everybody that some thing has been really established. You said : 'It is *prima facta* established.'

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : I have said about particular maps and not of other cases. What I have said relates only to the Calling Attention Motion in which a

very limited question was raised about publishing and circulation of maps about restricted areas. About the rest of the thing, I cannot possibly at this stage say anything.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will you kindly inquire into it ?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : Certainly, I will inquire into it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We now take up matter under rule 377.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

- (i) Need to constitute a Commission and take other effective steps to grievances of small regional newspapers

SHRI K.N. PRADHAN (Bhopal) : Sir, I would take to raise the following matter under Rule 377.

The condition of small newspapers in our country is continuously becoming miserable. The Central Government's advertisement and newsprint quota allocation policy has not been able to protect the interests of the small newspapers. The existing procedure of D.A.V.P. for getting advertisement and newsprint quota is very complex and cumbersome.

The circulation of small newspapers in our country is many times more than that of the large and medium newspapers and the small newspapers have made special contribution in reflecting particularly the developmental activities in rural areas.

To make the small newspapers self-reliant and help them in playing their special role in the development of the country, it is necessary that :—

1. A separate commission may be constituted for the small newspapers.
2. The small newspapers should be separated from the medium newspapers and the question of allocation