

that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 16th August, 1984, agreed without any amendment to the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India Bill, 1984, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 7th August, 1984."

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PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

*Two Hundred and Nineteenth Report*

SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN (Chandni Chowk): I beg to present the Two Hundred and Nineteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee on Paragraph 35 of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1981-82, Union Government (Civil) relating to the District Industries Centres Programme.

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COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

*Ninth Report*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar): I beg to present the Ninth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Government Assurance.

13.13 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

*Reported spurt in incidents of crime armed robberies and murders in Delhi and measures taken by Government to improve law and order situation in the capital*

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: (Ghazipur): 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:

"The reported spurt in the incidents of crime, armed robberies and murders in Delhi and the measures taken by the Government to improve the law and order situation in the Capital."

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATSUBBAIAH): Sir, Since 1980, there has been a declining trend in the overall crime rate in Delhi. Although there has been some increase in murders, in the other major categories of crime such as dacoity, robbery, burglary, snatching etc., there has been a fall in the number, of incidents reported over the years. In the category of murder and attempt to murder, where the motive is generally personal and preventive action by Police is not of much avail, the number of cases reported has been more or less of the same order during the last few years. The number of cases of rioting also shows a declining trend since 1980. I am also happy to note that the communal and labour situation in Delhi has remained well under control. Notwithstanding the fact that proximity of Delhi to Punjab, where public order has remained disturbed for some time, has made Delhi vulnerable to increased criminal activity, the Delhi Police have acquitted themselves creditably in maintaining law and order.

The years 1982 and 1983 have been trying years for the Police from the security angle because of the number of international events held during those years. It is to the credit of Delhi Police that these events passed off peacefully.

The Delhi Police have in recent months been able to successfully work out a number of major crime cases. The sunil Tyagi gang which was involved in 8 cases of robbery and the gang led by Balwinder Singh which was involved in 21 cases of dacoity in U.P. and Delhi were nabbed. The hijackers of the Rajasthan Roadways bus near Falam were apprehended. Sukhdev Singh, an extremist from Punjab who was involved in a case of robbery and in the robbery of a jewellery shop at Karol Bagh, was also nabbed. The arrest of 8 extremists has provided clues in regard to several cases of bomb explosions which occurred in Delhi during the last three years. Three major cases of robbery/dacoity involving cash/property worth over Rs 30/- lakhs have also been worked out. A major bank robbery in New Rohtak Road was prevented in the course of which a police officer lost his life.

(Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah)

“The Delhi Police have been strengthening surveillance over known criminals and taking action under various provisions of law including the National Security Act and holding inter-district meetings with the police officials of adjoining States for collection of intelligence and for checking the depredations of criminals from across the territory's boundary. The requirements of the Police in terms of manpower and equipment are also under continuous review. Additions in the form of men and equipment are made from time to time to improve the efficiency of the Delhi Police.

श्री जेनरल बशर : अध्यक्ष जी, मैं दिल्ली पुलिस का बड़ा प्रशंसक हूँ लेकिन आज विरोधी दल के लोग यहां मौजूद नहीं हैं इसलिए थोड़ी आलोचना दिल्ली पुलिस की करनी पड़ेगी। इसमें कोई दो रायें नहीं है कि दिल्ली की पुलिस को हमेशा चुनौतियां का मुकाबला करना पड़ता है और दिल्ली पुलिस के लोग हमेशा मानसिक तनाव में काम करते हैं। दिल्ली देश की राजधानी है, यहाँ पर कानून और व्यवस्था की बहुत सी समस्याएँ समय समय पर उभर कर सामने आ जाया करती हैं। दिल्ली पुलिस की तारीफ करनी पड़ेगी कि पिछले चार वर्षों में इसने बहुत सी अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय कॉन्फ्रेंस नानएलाइन्ड कॉन्फ्रेंस, कामनवेल्थ कंट्रीज के हेड्स आफ दि कंट्रीज की कॉन्फ्रेंस तथा एशियाई खेलों में बहुत सी सराहनीय भूमिका अदा की थी। उसी प्रकार से आज भी यह सिलसिला जारी है। पंजाब के आतंकवादियों का खास निशाना दिल्ली थी, लेकिन दिल्ली की पुलिस की तारीफ करनी पड़ेगी कि दिल्ली की पुलिस ने आतंकवादी गतिविधियों का केन्द्र दिल्ली को नहीं बनने दिया। लेकिन इन सब के साथ-साथ, अध्यक्ष जी, कभी कभी ऐसी शिकायतें आ जाती हैं जो दिल्ली पुलिस को बदनाम करती हैं। मैं दो खबरों की तरफ आपका ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ। एक घटना बलात्कार

की है - बलात्कारी थानेदार का गधे पर जुलूस निकालने की मांग। यह खबर जनसत्ता में निकली है। इसमें नौ अगस्त की रात को यह शर्मनाक घटना नंदनगरी पुलिस चौकी पर हुई है। एकाध और बलात्कारी की घटना के समाचार भी आए हैं दूसरी घटना है-बिना वजह सात दिन तक पीटा। करोल बाग पुलिस ने हत्या के शक में एक ऐसे आदमी की पकड़ कर सात दिन तक जम कर पीटा जो मृतक का नाम तक नहीं जानता था। इस प्रकार की घटनायें दिल्ली पुलिस के कार्यालयों में एक घन्टा लगाती हैं। इसको भी रोकने की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। मैं मंत्री जी से विशेष रूप से इन दो घटनाओं के बारे में जिनका मैंने उल्लेख किया है, जानना चाहता हूँ ? ये घटनायें जरूर समाचार पत्रों के माध्यम से या जनता की शिकायतों के माध्यम से उन के पास आई होंगी। उसमें उन्होंने क्या कार्यवाही की है और इसको उन्होंने कैसे तय किया है - यह मैं जानना चाहता हूँ ?

दूसरी बात यह कही गई कि पुलिस को साज-सामान और दूसरे सामानों से इक्विप किया जा रहा है। तो पुलिस उममें क्या कर रही है ? पुलिसकर्मियों के लिए मकान की व्यवस्था करने में और ज्यादा पुलिस के आदमी रखने के बारे में आप क्या करने जा रहे हैं ?

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : I thank the hon. Member for having given the due credit that the Delhi police deserves under the circumstances. They have to work under very trying circumstances. Because of the proximity of Delhi and also because of the phenomenal growth of population, large number of working population is coming to Delhi So, in spite of the fact that various constraints are existing, they are working with credit.

The hon. Member has mentioned about an incident which has been reported in the

Delhi edition of Indian Express dated 14.8.84 According to the newspaper, one Wilson is alleged to have been detained for a week and tortured by official of police station; Sultanpuri, as a result of which he subsequently succumbed to his injuries. According to the police, this is not the factual position and investigations conducted so far by them indicate that Wilson had been called for interrogation in connection with a series of theft cases from various Government Departments. Wilson had also previous police record of being a receiver of stolen property and petty thefts. Wilson was called to the police station on 9.8.84 and he promised that he would verify some intelligence that police had collected of the thefts and report back to the police. On 10.8.84, he is reported to have visited a local medical practitioner for receiving the medication, after which he arrived at the police station to inform the police of his local enquiries. Wilson was not arrested by the police but he was told to be available for any enquiry in future. On 11.8.84, according to the police, Wilson complained of uneasiness to some of his colleagues and administered an injection advised by a doctor. However, Wilson's colleagues admitted him to the Bara Hindu Rao Hospital. He was admitted for observation and the doctors could not check his falling blood pressure in time. He was thereafter, given artificial respiration, but he died. According to police reports, Wilson was a chronic patient of asthma. According to the interim *Post mortem* report received on 16.8.84 (yesterday), there was no internal or external injury. He has not been a victim of police beating.

About the housing problem, if a separate question is put, I will answer it.

**SHRI ZAINUL BASHER :** What about the reported rape cases?

**SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH :** We will look in to the matter. Information is not readily available with me. I have information only about one case of Mrs. Usha, wife of Shri Prem Chand of Sultanpuri. In this respect, the Commissioner of police has ordered an enquiry into the case.

So far as rape cases are concerned, there is a separate department, which has been strengthened. The Criminal Procedure Code, the Indian Penal Code and the Evidence Act have been amended' making the laws more stringent, so that whoever commits the crime will be duly punished.

**श्री वृद्धि चन्द्र जैन (बाड़मेर) :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं दिल्ली में अपराधों, डकैतियों और हत्याओं की घटनाओं के बारे में कुछ जानकारी प्रस्तुत करना चाहता हूँ।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** प्रस्तुत मत कीजिए बल्कि प्रश्न पूछिए।

**श्री वृद्धि चन्द्र जैन :** मैं प्रश्न ही पूछूंगा। पहली मैं यह जानकारी चाहता हूँ कि जवाब में स्पष्ट किया गया है कि हत्याओं में वृद्धि हुई है परन्तु दूसरे जो क्राइम्स हैं, उन में वृद्धि नहीं हुई है, तो 1981-82, 1982-83, 1983-84 और 1984-85 के आंकड़े आप प्रस्तुत करें और आंकड़े प्रस्तुत करके हमें बतलायें कि किस प्रकार इन जुर्मों में वृद्धि हुई है या नहीं, जिससे हमें स्थिति का अच्छी तरह से पता पड़ जाए।

दूसरी बात मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो भी अपराध किए गए, उन में कितने केसेज में चालान प्रस्तुत किए गए और चालान प्रस्तुत करने पर कितने केसेज कंविकशन हुआ और कितने केसेज में एक्वीटल हुआ और कितने केसेज में रिकवरी हुई। आम तौर पर यह देखा जाता है कि डकैतियों के केसेज में, रोबरीज के केसेज में, थैफ्ट के केसेज में रिकवरी के मामले में हमारी पुलिस निष्क्रिय रहती है। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि रिकवरी का जो परसेन्टेज है 1981-82, 1982-83 और 1983-84 में, किस प्रकार का रिकवरी का परसेन्टेज है। क्या उस में वृद्धि हुई है या घटोतरी हुई है।

(श्री वृद्धि चन्द्र जैन)

तीसरा प्रश्न मेरा यह है कि आज के आधुनिक समय में जो ट्रेनिंग फैसिलिटीज़ हैं, ट्रान्सपोर्ट इन्फ्रस्ट्रक्चर, वेल्फेयर स्कीम्स जैसे कंस्ट्रक्शन आफ क्वार्टर्स, वेरेक एकोमडेसन फोर नान-गजेटेड पुलिस परसोनेल और वायरलेस इन्फ्रस्ट्रक्चर, इन सब की व्यवस्था करने के लिए आपने क्या कदम उठाए हैं ? इस के बारे में मैं जानकारी चाहता हूँ ।

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : The hon. Member has given a long list of questions, which are not strictly relevant to this. I will furnish the information which the hon. Member wants to have.

13.25 hrs.

STATEMENT RE : ACCIDENT ON 16th AUGUST, 1984 TO 4 GJ JABALPUR-GONDIA PASSENGER BETWEEN CHAREGAON AND SAMANAPUR STATIONS ON THE JABALPUR-GONDIA NARROW GAUGE SECTION OF SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS, IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : On behalf of Shri A.B.A. Ghani Khan Choudhury, Sir, I regret to apprise the House of an unfortunate accident which occurred on 16.8.1984 due to the vagaries of nature.

Due to unprecedented sudden rain in the area between Charegaon and Samanapur Stations on Jabalpur-Gondia Narrow Gauge Section of the South Eastern Railway, the embankment next to a small culvert bridge 6 feet wide got breached due to the flash flood of water.

The train No. 4 GJ Jabalpur-Gondia Passenger consisting of 10 coaches and one other vehicle which was on run on this

section derailed and five coaches of the train capsized at the breach spot while the train engine remained on the rail.

It is given to understand by the South Eastern Railway that never before in the living memory has there been any flood damage in this area and hence there had been no occasion for the Railway to consider any special action to be taken in this area.

Unfortunately, this accident has resulted in 61 deaths including two grievously injured who died later, fiftyfour passengers received grievous injuries and fortyseven passengers received simple/trivial injuries.

Out of the coaches which capsized, all were under water but fortunately for us when rain stopped and water subsided, Railways along with the Civil authorities were able to make a through search to our satisfaction about the existence of trapped bodies. We found that 59 bodies were there. After rescue operations, we started lifting operation of the coaches one by one and also repairing of the track to bring relief train nearer and bring other equipments for lifting operations to be done speedily. By now, if there is no rain, lifting operations would have also been complete. With regard to the search of the bodies, it can be stated that this has been completed and the theory that flash of water carried some bodies does not have any basis since the search was made with the Civil authorities. The nullah was a small one and due to sudden flash of water it got swollen and when the rains stopped within a very short time, water subsided.

The Railways claim that the accident was due to natural calamity over which they had no control.

The safety authorities will tell us finally whether there was negligence on the part of the Railways about this accident. The report of the Commissioner of Railway Safety will be made available as the Railway Minister has made it a practice now. If it is a natural calamity as the Railways claim, we are sorry for the loss of human lives, but it is difficult to fix responsibility at this stage.