

(घ) सरकार निरन्तर निगरानी रख रही है और दामों को उत्पादकों के लिए लाभकारी बनाने वाले स्तरों से नीचे नहीं गिरने दिया जायेगा।

very active specially in the Kashmir Valley area and there is a group of the Plebiscite Front also, which is headed by Mirza Afzal Beg and their spiritual and from all aspects leader, Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah, which is very active in anti-Indian activities. In view of all this, may I know whether Government is contemplating any action against the anti-Indian and pro-Pakistani elements in the Jammu and Kashmir State?

12 12 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Reported existence of a new body of infiltrators in Pakistan to carry out sabotage activities in Jammu and Kashmir

SHRI INDER J. MALHOTRA (Jammu) : Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon :—

Reported existence of a new body of infiltrators named 'Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front' in Pakistan which is preparing to carry out sabotage activities and launch a guerilla armed offensive in Jammu and Kashmir.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government's attention has been drawn to news-items in the Indian press about the report by a British correspondent sent from Lahore and published in the *London Times*. We have seen the despatch published in the *London Times* of May 1, 1968 from Peter Hazelhurst, Lahore. The House is aware that it has been Pakistan's persistent endeavour to send her agents for sabotage and subversion in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Pakistan gives these agents different names. The Central and the State Governments are vigilant and they are confident that with the co-operation of the people, all such designs against the security of the country shall be defeated.

SHRI INDER J. MALHOTRA : In 1965 also we were told that we are very vigilant and we know that our vigilance crumpled overnight. Now the Home Minister has himself admitted that Pakistan never stops such activities of sabotage in Jammu and Kashmir. At present the anti-Indian and pro-Pakistani elements are

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : As far as the sabotage activities are concerned, very firm action has been taken in the last two years. About 1965, the hon. Member is misled about what happened in 1965. It was because of our vigilance that we could take steps about what was happening at that time.

श्री मधु लिनये (मुंगेर) : क्या विजिलेंस दिखाई है ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : There are some Members who are always interpreting against India itself. What can I do ?

श्री मधु लिनये : भारत के खिलाफ प्रायः काम करते हैं, हम नहीं करते। आज शाम को इसका पता चलेगा।

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : It is for them to interpret their own way.

As far as the sabotage activities are concerned, in the last two years a large number of spies were uncovered; most of them were proceeded against in the courts and some of them are in detention. This is proof of the vigilant action that we can take at the present moment. No action is contemplated against the Plebiscite Front.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK (South Delhi) : The hon. Minister has just not given an account which, to say the least, gives an indication of the complacency with which this Government has been suffering and as a result of which the whole country has suffered all these years. He says that in 1965 we were vigilant. In 1965 the warning had been given months before but no action was taken. The same thing had been happening earlier too. This time too it is not that a correspond-

ent of a British paper has said that but the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir himself, while speaking at Poonch about ten days back, said that his information was that Pakistan was carrying on military activities on the other side of the cease-fire line and that there could be a repetition of earlier happenings in Kashmir. This was the statement given by the Chief Minister himself. The information that has been coming from other sources also points to the fact that such things are happening. The situation has now been worsened by the activities of Sheikh Abdullah. Sheikh Abdullah has openly approved of what Pakistan did in 1965. He said, "What could Pakistan do except send infiltrators in 1965?" That is what he said. He also said, "The Indian Army is an army of occupation" and that Kashmir's future has to be settled. This has created a feeling of uncertainty in the minds of the people of Kashmir. It is this uncertainty which is being exploited by Pakistani and other foreign agents to create trouble there. So far as this atmosphere of uncertainty continues in Kashmir, it can be exploited as it has been exploited in the past. In view of that may I know what steps the Government contemplates to remove this sense of uncertainty? The major cause of this sense of uncertainty is article 370 which has become the biggest psychological barrier and so long as this article remains in our Constitution, the people of Kashmir, whatever you may say and whatever announcement Shri Morarjibhai, Shrimati Indira Gandhi or Shri Chavan may make, will never think that the matter has been settled. In order to remove that sense of uncertainty may I know whether you will immediately repeal article 370 of the Constitution and apply the Indian Constitution fully to Jammu and Kashmir State? Secondly, because of Sheikh Abdullah's activities which are prejudicial to peace in the country and which come within the purview of the Unlawful Activities Act which was passed here last session, may I know whether action will be taken against Sheikh Abdullah so that his activities may not encourage such elements in the State and outside?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : The hon. Member tried to make two points if I

have understood him correctly. One is his favourite thesis, namely, that the Government of India is very complacent about it. As a proof of it he mentioned what the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir said. If the Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister has said that—he has certainly said that—it is not a proof of complacency; it is a proof of our awareness of the situation that Pakistan is having some activities on the other side. That shows the wakefulness of the J & K Administration and I would like to assure the hon. Member, if he would like to be assured about it, that the Government of India is also equally wide awake about it and is vigilant as I have said already in my statement.

About Sheikh Abdullah, I think, I have tried to explain our attitude about this matter before, namely, that we are carefully watching what he is saying and what he has done but we do not want to rush ourselves into taking any action in this particular matter.

About article 370, we have many times explained our position about it. Article 370 as such is certainly a bridge which can be made use of for applying other articles and all laws. It is certainly a helpful process. By merely removing article 370, there is not going to be a very revolutionary change in the situation.

As far as the uncertainty is concerned, there is no uncertainty as far as we are concerned. Is the hon. Member uncertain about anything?

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK : I am not uncertain but you are uncertain.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I am not uncertain about it. We are completely certain of our position about it. But what the Pakistanis speak or say is not something that we should allow ourselves to be uncertain about. I think, our position is very firm and we should always think from the position of strength and be also very reasonable.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री (हापुड़) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी गुह मन्त्री जी ने बतलाया कि केन्द्रीय सरकार और राज्य सरकार इस विषय

[श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री]

रेशन फंट की गतिविधियों के मामलों में पूर्णतया सावधान है। अब पहले तो सब से बड़ी दुःख की बात यह है कि लिबरेशन फंट के नाम से जो जम्मू, काश्मीर में सशस्त्र विद्रोह की तैयारी विशेष कर पाकिस्तान से लगते हुए क्षेत्र में की जा रही है इससे बड़े दुःख की बात और कोई नहीं हो सकती कि उसकी सूचना सब से पहले लंदन टाइम्स के संवाददाता से हम को मिली, जब कि यह काम भारत सरकार का था जिस के लिए गृह मंत्री कह रहे हैं कि केन्द्रीय सरकार भी सचेष्ट है और राज्य सरकार भी सचेष्ट है। दूसरी सब से बड़ी बात यह है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार ने इस प्रकार की एक सचेष्टता का परिचय तब दिया था जब कहा था कि घुसपैठिये 200 या 250 से ज्यादा नहीं हैं, लेकिन बाद में इसी केन्द्रीय सरकार ने कहा कि 8 या 10 हजार की संख्या में घुसपैठिये आ गये हैं, और वह बात प्रागे चल कर भारत-पाकिस्तान संघर्ष में परिणत हुई। मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह बात सत्य है कि लिबरेशन फंट की जो गतिविधियाँ सशस्त्र विद्रोह के नाम पर चल रही हैं, विशेषकर जो पाकिस्तान से लगते हुए क्षेत्रों तथा काश्मीर वैली में चल रही हैं, वह शेख अब्दुल्ला के जेल से छूटने के बाद विशेष रूप से बढ़ी है, और क्या यह भी सही है कि शेख अब्दुल्ला इस प्रकार की गतिविधियों को किसी प्रकार से प्रत्यक्ष या परोक्ष रूप से अपनी समर्थन दे रहे हैं ?

मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह भी सही है कि अभी जब रूस के प्रधान मंत्री श्री कोसीजिन की पाकिस्तान यात्रा हुई थी और वहाँ से मास्को आते हुए जब वह भारत होकर लौटे तब उन्होंने पाकिस्तान सरकार का कोई प्रस्ताव काश्मीर के सम्बन्ध में भारत सरकार के प्रधान मंत्री या भारत सरकार को दिया, और इस तरह से अन्दरबाना जो बात-चीत चल रही है उसको सरकार छिपाना चाहती है

ताकि जिस समय ताड़-फोड़ की घटनाएँ घटे उस समय सरकार अपनी असमर्थता का बहाना लेकर बैठ जाय और इस प्रकार से जिस चीज पर अरबों रुपया देश का लग चुका है और हजारों सिपाही अपना बलिदान कर चुके हैं उसको देश को अपने हाथों से खोना पड़े, कहीं ऐसी स्थिति तो नहीं है ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : It is not true that we only know about it from *London Times* as to what is happening on the other side. Are we expected to go and publicise in newspapers ? I do not understand what is expected. As I said, we are aware and Pakistan sometimes makes use of different names on different occasions. The only thing is we have to take note of this and take necessary steps. Naturally, we cannot go on advertising what steps we are taking in the matter. This is what I can say about the particular matters concerned.

About Sheikh Abdullah, I have no evidence to say he is connected with subversive activities. As long as I have no evidence, I cannot make charges like that.

SHRI PRAKASH VIR SHASTRI : What about Mr. Kosygin ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Mr. Kosygin has nothing to do with this matter.

12.23 hrs.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE AGAINST

Maharashtra Times, Bombay

SHRI D. N. PATODIA (Jalore) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Rule 225 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha, I seek the leave of the House to raise the question of privilege on the following matter.

The *Maharashtra Times*, a Marathi daily published from Bombay, carried a report in its issue of 3rd May, 1968 which says, *inter alia* :

"Shri Paranjpe visited this area on