

Safdarjang over-bridge

7702. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set-up an independent Technical Committee to investigate and pin point why a portion of the controversial Safdarjang (Delhi) Overbridge collapsed on the 9th January, 1974;

(b) whether any report has been submitted by the said Committee and if so, what are the main features of the report; and

(c) action taken on this report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI OM MEHTA): (a) The Government appointed a Commission of Inquiry under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952, to inquire into the facts and circumstances including the causes leading to the collapse of two spans (under construction) of the Safdarjung flyover on 9th January, 1974.

(b) and (c). The Commission has since submitted its report which is under examination of the Government.

12.10 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED SEALING OF 20 GODOWNS OF DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION BY C.B.I.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): 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 sealing of 20 godowns of Delhi Municipal Corporation by the C.B.I.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSON-

NEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): Sir, on 16-4-1974 a complaint was received by the Central Bureau of Investigation alleging embezzlement of public funds by some employees of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi in collusion with certain firms by falsely showing receipt of ballast and other building material purported to have been supplied by some firms while no supplies were actually made or lesser or sub-standard material was supplied. It was also alleged that certain official records had been interpolated and forged to show favours to the firms in the acceptance of tenders. The firms were further alleged to be changing their names. As the allegation under Sections 120-B/420/409 minimal offences and it had specifically been mentioned in the complaint, that unless immediate action was taken by the Central Bureau of Investigation, the accused would destroy the evidence, a case was registered on 17-4-1974 at 8 a.m. by the S.P.E. Division of Central Bureau of Investigation under Sections 120-B/420/409/467 IPC, Section 5(2) read with Section 5(1)(a) & (d) of Prevention of Corruption Act and investigation was taken up. The Commissioner of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi was informed and the Director of Vigilance of Delhi Municipal Corporation was immediately requested to provide necessary assistance. The Deputy Director Vigilance was deputed to assist the Central Bureau of investigation Team in the seizure of relevant records at the Karol Bagh Zonal Office.

Action was taken to seize the relevant records at the various stores of the Corporation and its hot mix plant on the 17th April and later dates for the purpose of verification of stocks. Since shortage of stores was alleged, the verification of stocks on hand was taken up with the assistance of technical staff provided by the Chief Technical Examiner of the Central Vigilance Commission and Vigilance Organisation of the C.P.W.D. Further investigation is continuing.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Mr. Speaker, I am surprised at this sketchy statement because I have got more material in my possession than what the hon. Minister has mentioned in his statement, and this has happened in New Delhi. I expected the hon. Minister to collect and supply us more information but what he has stated is less than what has appeared in the newspapers.

The total budget of the Corporation is Rs. 6 crores, out of which Rs. 2 crores is the Corporation Budget for maintenance, Rs. 2 crores is the Government of India Grants and Rs. 50 lakhs is the budget set apart as Rs. 50,000 per constituency per councillor, and the rest is for school buildings, staff quarters, development colonies etc., making a total of Rs. 6 crores.

According to the CPWD Schedule, there should be one Superintending Engineer for every Rs. 2 crores of expenditure, but in the Corporation there is only one Superintending Engineer for the entire budget of Rs. 6 crores. In the entire Corporation area, except Karol Bagh Zone where this incident has taken place, the ruling party has majority in the Corporation and the majority of the Councillors belong to the ruling party. Without attributing any motives to anybody, including my hon. friend, Shri Vajpayee, and his party, I would like to say that only the Executive Engineer has the authority to call for tenders up to Rs. 10,000 and allot work or make purchases. In the Karol Bagh zone there is an exception made, where the Assistant Engineer is authorised to make purchases upto Rs. 5,000.

In March, 1974 purchases worth Rs. 22 lakhs have been shown in the Karol Bagh Zone and another Rs. 8 lakhs in the Civil Lines zone, in the constituency which the same Assistant Engineer is supposed to look after. The position is that the tenders were invited on 20th March, 1974, opened on 20th March and the purchases were allotted on the 27th March. The bill was made on the 28th March and pas-

sed for payment so that the amount could be shown as the expenditure in the current financial year. But the actual position is that the material was never supplied. Enquiries can be made as to from which shop or firm did they buy the material. The fact is that the Councillors and their relations have floated fake firms. Under the Corporation Act no person can remain a Councillor or Alderman of the Corporation if he, directly or indirectly, is involved as a partner in any firm which supplies materials to the Corporation. In this particular case the position is that the material was never supplied.

There are certain firms involved in this case which are owned by the relatives of certain Councillors. I do not want to mention names, even of the CBI, because I belong to the CPI. There is supposed to be one D.K. & Company, from whom purchases for the Karol Bagh Zone was made to the tune of Rs. 1 lakh in March alone, owned by a boy who till two months back was a student, and this firm is not at all in existence and it is not registered as a firm either.

Then there are two firms, where another Jan Sangh Councillor is involved—M/s. K. S. & Company and Naresh Kumar Jain. These are fake firms. There is not even a sign board. I can understand it if there is at least a sign board.

Then there is Shri Krishan Lal, brother-in-law of another big person in the Corporation, who has floated three fake firms called Krishanlal & Company, Pal & Company and Darshan Lal. Again, the brother in law (wife's brother) of the same person has floated three fake firms, namely, Sundaral & Sons, Sethi Construction Company and Naresh Construction Company. It is also understood that the sons of the same very big person in the Corporation—I do not want to mention names; I do not know who is Shri Balraj Khanna....

MR. SPEAKER: If he wants to mention the name of any person who is

[Mr. Speaker]

not present in the House, he should inform me in advance.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: The Minister should investigate, the CBI should investigate and also Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee should investigate if these people are involved in this. The President of the Mandal of Patel Nagar—I do not know what that Mandal is—Shri Satpal Thareja has also three fake firms, namely, Messrs. Janak Construction Company, P. Raj & Company and Gold Li Construction Company.

MR. SPEAKER: I just want to mention that if some names are to be mentioned then he has to inform the Speaker in advance.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Sir, if you so desire, I am prepared to withdraw those names.

MR. SPEAKER: I just wanted to invite his attention to the rules.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I am sorry; I will not mention any more names. But unless the names of the firms are mentioned, how can I ask the questions?

MR. SPEAKER: He can mention the names of firms. But for mentioning the names of individuals he has to give prior intimation.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: All these fake firms are owned by the relatives or in-laws of the Councillors. I would like to know from the hon Minister whether these firms are really genuine or fake firms which never existed with which there were shady transactions by the officials of the Corporation. If in the investigation it is found that any Councillor is involved in these deals, it will give a blow to our public life and the good names of those who are in politics.

I saw whosoever is involved there should be a proper investigation.

I want to know from the hon. Minister, apart from the C.B.I. inquiry which

is being conducted, whether after the inquiry report is available, he is going to appoint a high-power Commission with a High Court judge or a Supreme Court Judge to go into the various charges. Will he ask the C.F.W.D. why have the rules been violated? Will he ask the Corporation or the Chief Commissioner of the Corporation why in the case of Karol Bagh zone alone the Assistant Engineer has been given so many power? Is it that the Assistant Engineer in the Karol Bagh zone is there for the last 8 years although, under the rules, the persons are transferred after a certain number of years? Why has the Karol Bagh zone become a gold mine for everyone?

I want to know from the hon Minister whether, after the CBI inquiry is over, a thorough probe will be made into this whole affair. If the hon Minister wants more facts, I can give him more facts.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The hon. Member, Shri S. M. Banerjee has given a number of facts regarding this case.

My difficulty is that the case is under investigation. It was registered only a few days back. The moment information was received, very prompt action was taken. All the complaints mentioned in the report were fully looked into. I am not in a position to say whether all these firms are involved or not because it would entail examination of records, verification of stores...

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Whether these firms do exist, whether they are correctly or wrongly involved.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: This is being looked into, as to which firm supplied what things and, if they supplied those things, whether they were sub-standard and whether they have been accounted for in the stores. As many as 19 or 20 stores have been sealed. Physical verification is going on. We do not have enough technical

'aff. So, we have taken the assistance of the Central Vigilance Commission's technical staff, and also of the C.P.W.D. The whole thing is being thoroughly looked into. All the facts that the hon. Member has mentioned will also be looked into. I can only say, at this stage, that it will be very premature for me to say anything which may, to some extent, be unhelpful to the investigations going on. If the hon. Member wants, he can pass on more facts to me.

As regards the appointment of Commission of Inquiry, it depends on what the result of the C.B.I. inquiry is. If any criminal case is made it will go to the court. If there is contravention of any other law, the Income-Tax law or the Sales-Tax law, an appropriate action will be taken under the law of the land.

SHRI P. GANGADEB (Angul): Sir, I take this opportunity to compliment the C.B.I. for taking initiative and for unearthing a scandal involving embezzlement of lakhs of rupees and sealing of 20 godowns of the Delhi Municipal Corporation in the Karol Bagh zone area.

The Delhi Municipal Corporation is one of the largest corporations in the world, only next to that of Tokyo which covers an area of 720 sq. miles as against 520 sq. miles in the jurisdiction of the Delhi Municipal Corporation. As we are all aware, the annual income of the Corporation exceeds Rs. 6 crores. Any collusion and connivance between the Municipal authorities, the contractors and the Municipal Councilors can result in a considerable leakage of funds. Therefore, a misappropriation of funds to the tune of about 10 per cent alone may involve a crore of rupees.

Unfortunately, all this shall be at the cost of the innocent citizens of Delhi. They shall be deprived of their civic amenities. It is indeed shocking that in this city of Delhi, today more than half the houses do not have even flush latrines.

Many continue to live in slums and conditions of inhuman habitation. It is not most unethical and immoral? The irony of the whole situation is that the political party in power in the Delhi Municipal Corporation seems to be practising hypocrisy of the highest order. This is an instance of reckless use of authority and inexcusable abuse of power against public interest and thereby promoting corruption in an unabated manner.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Gwalior): These allegations cannot be allowed to go unchallenged. What are we discussing? Are we discussing the conduct of my party in the Delhi Municipal Corporation or the sealing of 20 godowns?

MR. SPEAKER: The objection raised by Mr. Vajpayee, to my mind, is perfectly valid. You should ask for factual information without casting any reflection on any party.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Has he been given a brief from the ruling party? They are reading from the same paper....

MR. SPEAKER: I am not aware of that.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: He is congratulating the CBI for prompt action. What about prompt action by CBI in the case of VIP land grabbing in Delhi? Can they order a CBI inquiry?

SHRI P. GANGADEB: I am sorry if my friend, Mr. Vajpayee, has taken it seriously.

MR. SPEAKER: Ask for only factual information without going into who is good and who is bad.

SHRI P. GANGADEB: The Vigilance Department of the Delhi Administration has not played its role properly apparently because of some pressure used by the Municipal

[Shri P Gangadeb]

Councillors and the municipal authorities Sir, something has to be done urgently with a strong hand by the Central Government; otherwise, I am afraid the vast population of Delhi, entrusted to the care of these corrupt officers and contractors, will continue to suffer the tragic consequences of abuse of power by the ruling party in the Delhi Municipal Corporation.

MR. SPEAKER: Ask your questions

SHRI P GANGADEB: I would like to ask some very basic questions I would take this opportunity to submit that inadequacies and limitation of judicial procedure and its system in matters of avoiding severe and deterrent punishment to the enemies of public interest should not be allowed to provide room for corruption and embezzlement of public funds. I therefore, suggest that the legal enactments and provisions of the Indian Penal Code be suitably modified so that nobody finds it worthwhile to indulge in corruption.

MR. SPEAKER: This is regarding sealing of 20 godowns: And you are giving them advice what to do and what not to do. You can ask for the information that you want.

SHRI P. GANGADEB: I am just concluding, Sir. Before I conclude, I must congratulate the Youth Congress of Delhi who have retaliated very well in this embezzlement case..

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Now the cat is out of the bag

MR. SPEAKER: There seem to be many cats in the bag

AN HON. MEMBER: One is out of the bag

SHRI P. GANGADEB: I would request the hon. Home Minister to give us not only the details and all relevant facts but also spell out, for

the information of the House, the concrete measures that Government propose to take for thorough probe into the matter as well as for imposing the severest and the most deterrent punishment to the agents and masters of corruption in the Delhi Municipal Corporation.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The hon Member has raised a number of general points His main contention seems to be that the procedures of the Corporation should be such as are capable of taking care of leakage of funds and seeing that government funds are properly spent The Corporation has the same rules and procedures as are followed by the CPWD in account matters The measurements are recorded by junior engineers, 50 per cent test check is made by the Assistant Engineer before any running or final payment is made The Executive Engineer is required to make 10 per cent check of the measurements for the works and supplies made as a whole. Therefore, so far as the rules and regulations and checks are concerned, they already exist, and it is only when they are contravened that difficulties of this nature arise What extent these rules have been contravened is subject-matter of investigation, and before it is completed, it is not possible for me to say anything I can assure the hon Member that all aspects of the matter mentioned by him would be taken note of, and if any system is found wanting, it will also be set at rest I do not think there is anything in the legal provisions that is needed at this stage But if that is also necessary we would take suitable action with respect to that also.

SHRI MADHURYA HALDAR (Mathurapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have no brief as alleged by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, nor have I to congratulate any one except the lady who was an employee in the godown and and who expressed and entire matter

to the higher authorities for investigation. But I think her life is in danger because these people are miscreants and can do anything. So, my first point is that security to her life has to be ensured by the Government so that nothing can happen to her. Then I wish to put some straight questions to the Minister as to who are these contractors—I want their names—the value of their supplies, what was the contract, what was their supply, and whether the CBI has completed its report. If the CBI has completed its report, I think the hon Minister would supply copies of the report to the Members of parliament; if not, I want to know when the CBI is going to complete its report; at least some hints may be given to us.

There is a news item in which it is said that, in the Delhi Municipal Corporation, the overseers have special powers to purchase building materials worth Rs. 1,000, Assistant Engineers upto Rs. 5,000; and Executive Engineers upto Rs. 10,000. The Councillors have got Rs. 50,000 for their constituencies. This has come in the press I do not understand what building materials can be purchased with Rs. 1,000. Only a few bags of cement or a little quantity of steel can be purchased. But all these things would be provided by the Department or by the Commissioner. So, giving such special powers has given rise to corruption; this is the root cause of corruption—from overseers to executive engineers and Councillors. I want to know from the hon. Minister how many cases of corruption have come to their notice so far, for how long this has been going on and what action has been taken. Particularly I want to know whether the Assistant Engineers or the in-charges of those godowns who accepted the tenders have been suspended or not I want to know whether these contractors are related to these people. My fear is that the CBI enquiry will not reveal all these facts because either directly or indirectly

the councillors can influence the Assistant Engineers or the Engineers who accept the tender. Therefore what I feel is that a judicial enquiry is very necessary. I want to know whether the Government is ready to order a judicial enquiry into this matter. I want to know as to how long the engineers have been posted in these areas, how long were they in charge of the godowns there. What is the normal tenure of the service in a certain godown which is prescribed? I want to know whether posting is done on highest bidding as in the case of auctions. Lastly I want to know one thing. This is my last question. In the newspapers it has been stated that what has been unearthed in Karol Bagh Zonal Office is just a small part of the financial racket that operates in almost all zonal offices and at DMS h.q. at Chandni Chowk with the connivance of officers and councillors. I want to know whether a raid was done at any other godowns or not. At least what has been done with regard to the DMC h.q. at Chandni Chowk. I want to know.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: He wants to know as to how many godowns were raided. I have said 19 godowns and one store. They have been sealed and the contents are being verified. As regards other godowns there are no complaints about them. They go into the specific complaints that have been referred to them. These have got to be investigated. And for this various steps have been taken about which I have already indicated in my previous reply. Regarding proper protection to be given to persons cooperating in this, I can certainly say all protection will be given to the persons who cooperate in this investigation and who feel that they have anything to fear from any quarter. About Chandni Chowk they have not done anything because there was no complaint about that. We are concentrating on those areas where there have been specific complaints.

SHRI MADHURYYA HALDAR
You are giving time to hush up the
affair

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA It is not a roving type of enquiry It is a question of investigation CBI is an investigation agency which goes into specific charges that are referred to it There are certain specific complaints made and on those things investigation is going on If certain other complaints come, naturally they will also go into them As regards presenting the report to the House, I don't think that is necessary That is a statutory report If it reveals that there is a case against certain persons it will be followed up and case filed in court of law, etc, and suitable action will be taken Regarding his next question about number of corruption cases I do not have the figures with me. There is a Vigilance wing or Vigilance section which invest gates into these cases as and when they are referred to them

कम से कम जो इन में इनवाल्ड फर्म्स हैं, अप्रफेसर् हैं उन के बारे में तलाशी होनी तो जरूरी थी। वह तलाशी नहीं हुई। समझ में नहीं आता है कि क्यों नहीं हुई। रजिस्टर्ड प्र देखा जाए कि जो इटे सप्लाय हुई और जिन भट्टों में हुई हैं वहां इटे बनाने लो नहीं। सडके चौकी करने के लिए जो पसा दिया जाता था कारपोरेशन से उमका ५२ पाथ बनाने पर खर्च कर दिया जाता था जो टाइल बनाने वाली कम्पनिया भी बोगम है और उसके बाद वे टूट जाते *। दुनिया में कहीं भी ऐसा नहीं है कि किनी मैम्बर को, चुने हुए मैम्बर को प्रोमिषम दिया जाए, लेकिन यहाँ कारपोरेशन मैम्बरों को जन सच ने आ साहब के वक्त जब वह यहां लिफ्टनेट गवर्नर थे कैमला दिया था कि त्वास ट्वावर रुपये माल के हर एक मैम्बर की देंगे ताकि वह अपनी मर्जी से अपने इलाके में इनमें खर्च कर सकें --

श्री अशोक शिरोवाजेरो का प्रश्न के मैम्बरों को भी दिा जाने हैं।

श्री शशि भूषण (दक्षिण दिल्ली)
मी की आई ने करोल बाग में बीस गोंडाऊज को सील किया। लगभग तीन नौ पुलिसवैन वहाँ गए। दो डी आई जी, पांच सुपरिटेण्डेंट पुलिस गए। करप्शन में सम्बन्धित जो रिकार्ड थे उन को साथ ले गए। लेकिन मुझे हैरानी है कि अब तक कोई इजीनियर सस्पेंड नहीं हुआ कोई प्रोव्हरमीयर नहीं हुआ और जिन पार्श्वों के अन्तर्गत यह सब काम होता था उन में से एक के घर की तलाशी भी नहीं हुई, किसी इजीनियर के घर की तलाशी नहीं हुई, प्रोव्हरमीयर के घर की तलाशी नहीं हुई। यह छापा मारा गया और अल्ला ही गिया गया। लेकिन सी डी आई भी असमर्थ है। तेरह और पंद्रह साल में कैमिस चल रहे हैं बिजलाज के ऊपर लेकिन कुछ नहीं हुआ और फिर एबीडेल देने पर भी रोक लगाते हैं। इस मामले में सी की आई क्या कर सकेगी, पता नहीं। लेकिन

श्री शशि भूषण वह भी गलत। इसके अलावा बीस हजार रुपये और दिये जाने हैं बिजली वगैरह ठीक करने के लिए। एक लाख रुपये रियेयर के लिए बिचा जाता है अछयल महोदय, आप देखें कि पार्लियामेंट में हजारों करोड़ रुपये का बजट हर साल आता *। अब एक एक मैम्बर पार्लियामेंट को पक्कीम पक्काम करोड़ रुपया अग्रर दिया जा कि वह अपने इलाके में, प्र ५० कंस्ट्रक्शंस में खर्च करे तो वह किननी मूर्खनापूर्ण बात होगी। हिन्दुस्तान तथा दुनिया के इतिहास में कहीं भी आरकों इस तरह की चीज होनी नहीं मिलेगी। लेकिन यहाँ कारपोरेट न के लोगों को दिया गया है। कोई बैंक नहीं है इस पर। यह सब कुम्प्यान का अड्डा है। इसलिए आ साहब ने कहा था कि कारपोरेशन इस प्रैक्टिस को बन्द कर दे। जिस डग से कार-

पोरेशन में इस तरह पैसा देने का प्रीमियम देने का हक दिया गया है उस तरह का हक हिन्दुस्तान भर में और दुनिया भर में किसी भी चुने हुए मंत्री को नहीं दिया गया है और कहीं भी सरकारी फंड से इस बात के लिए पैसा नहीं दिया जाता है कि कोई अपने इलाके में उसको खर्च करे। मैं मांग करता हूँ कि इस ढंग से प्रीमियम देने की जो व्यवस्था है उसको रद्द करने के लिए आदेश जारी प्राप्त करें। यह मंत्री का कुरूप बनाने का एक तरीका है।

जो मेट्रीरियल पकड़ा गया है जा दस्तावेज पकड़े गए हैं उनके अलावा यह भी पता चला है कि यह मेट्रीरियल पार्षद के घर में भी इस्तेमाल हुआ है। मैं नाम लेना नहीं चाहता हूँ। एक मंत्री पार्लियामेंट हैं जो राज्य सभा से अभी अभी खसत हुए हैं उनका डबल स्टोरी मकान कराल वाग में बना है और उस में यह मेट्रीरियल इस्तेमाल हुआ है। हमारे अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी बड़े जोश के साथ कह रहे हैं कि सी बी आई इनक्वायरी क्यों नहीं की जाती है और जिं कोप्रोसेटिव हाउस बिल्डिंग सोसाइटी का नाम उन्होंने लिया है उसमें मैं जानता हूँ कि कवर लाल गुप्त जी के दो प्लॉट हैं

अध्यक्ष महोदय . बिना नोटिस दिए हुए या किसी का नाम न लें।

श्री शक्ति भूषण महावीर जी का है। एक सी प्लॉट्स जन सचिवों के हैं। ये डिमांड करते हैं कि सी बी आई इनक्वायरी चलाई होनी चाहिए। मैं भी इस की डिमांड करता हूँ। श्री केशव सोसाइटी में ऐसे ऐसे लोगों के प्लॉट्स हैं जो वैरोबी में रहते हैं, आम्बिका में रहते हैं, चण्डीगढ़ में रहते हैं और छ: छ: प्लॉट्स उनके नाम हैं। मैं भी मांग करता

चाहता हूँ कि इनक्वायरी हो। गाँव देव जी नहीं कह सकते हैं लेकिन मैं कह सकता हूँ क्योंकि मैं जानता हूँ कि जनसंघ में क्या कुछ किया है। जिन पार्षदों के नाम लिए गए हैं उन के घर में तलाशी क्यों नहीं की गई है। यूथ कांग्रेस के लोग ने इस सब के बारे में भूख हड़ताल की थी। पार्षदों के नाम मैं चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय बताएं। जितना समय सी बी आई ने लिया है उस बीच में अगर इन सब परा की तलाशी ल ली गई होनी तो शायद बहुत सी चीजें और निकल सकती थी। पार्षदों के घर की तलाशी आप कब लेगे? जो इनवाल्ड अफसर है उनके घरों की तलाशी आप कब लेगे। जो फर्म्स इनवाल्ड है उनकी तलाशी आप क्यों नहीं लेते हैं। मैं मांग करता हूँ कि जो भी रिपोर्ट आपकी मिले उनका आप जल्दी से जल्दी सोल करे ताकि और ज्यादा हेराफेरी वे लोग न कर सकें। इस बीच में जनसंघ के लोग जिनका वॉरपोरेशन में बहुत मत हैं और जो आफिसर्स पर दबाव डाल रहे हैं, कमिश्नर पर दबाव डाल रहे हैं ताकि वह इनक्वायरी में सी बी आई की मदद न करे क्या इसके बारे में भी आप कोई कदम उठाएंगे? क्या आप इसको देखेंगे कि उनको इस काम में पूरी आजादी हो और तरह तरह से कमिश्नर पर तथा दूसरा पर जो दबाव डाला जा रहा है और कहा जा रहा है कि क्यों सारी रिपोर्टें दी क्या उन आफिसर्स को सुरक्षा प्रदान करने की भी आप व्यवस्था करने के लिए तैयार है ताकि वे मच बोल सकें और मजबूती के साथ इस इनक्वायरी को पूरा करा सकें? ईमानदार आफिसरों की मदद करने इसके लिए मैं आप से आशासक्त चाहता हूँ।

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: It is true that no one has as yet been suspended or arrested in this case. I hope the hon. Member would agree that we can arrest persons only when a certain amount of proof is available, and we are on the track and if the scrutiny of records and other material that is available before us reveals complicity of anyone, whether he is an officer or a corporator or any one else, we shall not hesitate to take proper action under law. But that can only be done after we have collected information and the records and find what is to be done against them.

As regards giving protection to officers, as I said earlier we shall certainly give full protection to anyone, and anyone who will co-operate with this investigation need not be under any fear that he would be put some trouble because of his co-operation with the CBI.

As regards the practice of Rs 50,000 per corporator, it has been going on for some time, and all that I can say at this stage is that we shall go into this practice and see whether that is proper or that needs to be modified or changed and if so in what way.

12.48 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ANNUAL REPORT OF INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKINGS OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT 1972-73

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) On behalf of Shri K R Ganesh, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) on the working of the Industrial and Commercial Undertakings of the Central Government for the year 1972-73 [Placed in the Library See No LT-61/83/74].

MR SPEAKER Next item Shri Shinde. He is not present here?

ANNUAL REPORT OF NATIONAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, NEW DELHI FOR 1972-73, BOMBAY INAMS (KUTCH AREA) ABOLITION (GUJARAT AMDT) ACT BOMBAY TENANCY AND AGRICULTURAL LANDS (GUJARAT AMDT) ACT, AND GUJARAT DEVASTHAN INAMS (ABOLITION AMDT.) RULES, 1973

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI F A AHMED) I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Cooperative Development Corporation, New Delhi for the year 1972-73, under sub-section (3) of section 3 of section 14 of the National Cooperative Development Corporation Act, 1962 [Placed in Library See No LT-6764/74]

(2) A copy each of the following President's Act (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of the Gujarat State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Act, 1974 —

(i) The Bombay Inams (Kutch Area) Abolition (Gujarat Amendment) Act, 1974 (President's Act No 7 of 1974) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1974.

(ii) The Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands (Gujarat Amendment) Act 1974 (President's Act No 7 of 1974) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1974 [Placed in Library See No LT-6763/74]

(3) A copy of the Gujarat Devasthan Inams (Abolition Amendment) Rules, 1973 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. GHM-281 in Gujarat Government Gazette dated the 14th November,