

[Translation]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : The Ordinance was not discussed in the Conference.

[Translation]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether the resolutions of the recently concluded International Conference on Environmental Education.....

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have one suggestion : in case the Ordinance is going to lapse, let him at least use his good offices to see that the Ordinance is not allowed to lapse. I request the Minister to use his good offices.

SHRI VIR SEN : It concerns the State Government.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister can make a suggestion.....

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : In the recently concluded International Conference of Environmental Education, it has been suggested in para "d" of the Resolution that Environment Councils should be constituted at the local level. Our Government had taken a decision about two years ago to constitute Environmental Education Councils and Advisory Councils. In view thereof, are all the State Government making efforts to constitute those Councils ? What is the attitude of the Central Government regarding the constitution of these Councils at present ?

SHRI VIR SEN : Our State Government has taken some decisions in this regard while other State Governments have not taken any decision. However, several departments and agencies are already

there which look after this work such as D.R.D.A., District Planning Committee and District Block Committee. So, there is no need to constitute a new Committee for the purpose.

MR. SPEAKER : Vir Senji, Shri Ramswaroop Ram has given a good suggestion. You start with the children. They should be taught civic sense or afforestation and this is good for all. Every child in the school should be asked to plant a tree, They should be told that it is their duty to do this and the trees will bear their names.

SHRI VIR SEN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is already a scheme. "A Tree For Every Child" scheme is being introduced under the Plan.

[English]

Review of Reservation Policy

*366. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has decided to review the reservation policy in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a), (b) & (c). The policy of reservation with reference to reservation of seats in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies was reviewed in 1980 when the bill for extending the period of reservation beyond 1980 was introduced in the Lok Sabha. It was felt that the Social, Education and Economic conditions of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is not at par with the other Section of the population and therefore, there is a need for reservation of seats in the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies upto 1990.

There is at present no proposal to review the above.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Before he asks a question, I want some clarification about printing of this question.

Was there any private communication between the member and the Minister that the reservation policy to which he referred was only reservation regarding seats in the Lok Sabha and Legislatures and not a general policy in the country for SC & ST? She look it for granted that it was in the Lok Sabha and Assemblies and gave the reply.

MR. SPEAKER : Because she was a Member of the Lok Sabha herself.

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : What can I do? The hon. member who had asked the question, he could have very well clarified it.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : I had put my question on the reservation of SC & ST, but subsequently it had been changed. However, the reply just now came from the Minister of State is that "there is at present proposal to review the above." At my end, at present, I am happy with this. But what provoked me is this.

MR. SPEAKER : Once it is quite a welcome change.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Certainly, yes, in a general way. What is going on in Gujarat—reservation and anti-reservation. riots? It has paralysed the life in Gujarat completely. Lawlessness is prevailing there. Firing, arson, looting, killing, everything is going on.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Who is doing it?

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Let the Prime Minister answer it. When Gujrat and Madhya Pradesh were burning, the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, said, the reservation policy would be reviewed after the Assembly elections—reports UNI, dated 28th February, 1985. It was published in different newspapers. It was advertised through radio and T.V. also. May I know from the hon. Minister and also the Prime Minister whether it is not a case of pouring oil into the fire? Is it not a political stunt only? In the near future, have you got any idea regarding reservation for SC & ST in the case of missions, in the case of jobs, in the case of Assemblies and Parliament?

Also, may I know what are the positive steps that have been taken from your end to stop this anti-reservation riot in Gujarat and other places?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Now, Sir, is it clear? He was meaning one thing and the Minister was saying something else.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN) : I have clarified this point when I was replying to the debate on the Demands for Grant of the Home Ministry. The statement has been ascribed to the Prime Minister that he seems to have made a statement that a consensus needs to be developed on the policy of reservation. What the Prime Minister has stated was in respect of the other backward classes for which a consensus will have to be developed. I had clarified this position. I believe the hon. Member was not there in the House on that day.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You spoke when he was not there!

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : That is the tragedy—whole tragedy—of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the entire country.

Now, I like to draw your attention to the third report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, page 196, Chapter VI, Item No. 31.

"The Commission suggests that a special scheme should be evolved for attracting the children of those SC & ST communities whose literacy rate is less than 50 per cent of the state average."

May I know from the hon. Minister whether Articles 29(2) of the Constitution has been violated in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh and SC/ST students denied admission there? Please state what are the steps that have been taken for them.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : Since the hon. Member has given this information now, I will require some time to ascertain the facts from the Gujarat Government.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : This is in the report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Tribes.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : The facts will have to be obtained from the State Government concerned and thereafter only.....

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : This is in the report. Is this report of the State Government ?

MR. SPEAKER : Let the Minister reply first.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : Let me get the information on the point which the hon. Member has raised here. I will ascertain the facts from the Gujarat Government and then we will have to say as to what will be the position.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : In view of the growth of population and the situation having changed, will the Government set up a Committee to re-allocate the seats for Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assemblies, belonging to SC/ST, in the State Assemblies ?

MR. SPEAKER : You mean a fresh delimitation of the constituencies.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : May I request the hon. Member to kindly repeat the question ?

MR. SPEAKER : He wants to know whether you have any ideas on delimitation of the constituencies.

AN HON. MEMBER : How does it come here ?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : Article 330 of the Constitution provides for reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the House of the People, in proportion to their population. A similar provision of the Constitution exists in Article 332 of the Constitution for State Assemblies. I have already stated in my original reply that the policy was reviewed and the bill came before the Lok Sabha in 1980. So, no further review is going to be made. It has been further extended up to 1990.

MR. SPEAKER : He is not asking about that. He is only asking you whether you have any fresh ideas about delimitation due to the population increase.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : As far as delimitation is concerned, because of the

increase in population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, there is a resolution of the National Development Council that it is the 1971 Census which will be taken into account while deciding the constituencies both for Parliament as well as Assemblies, and if the increased population is there, *per se*, the number of voters will increase; but it will not lead to delimitation.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Is it not a fact that keeping the welfare and upliftment of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in view, all along the Government had pursued this policy of reservations ?

In view of the tensions now prevailing in some parts of the country, is Government trying to reach some kind of a consensus on this policy again, if it is called for ?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : So far as reservations in respect of SC and ST, are concerned, there is no question of consensus involved. It is the decided policy of the Government and there is no question of going back. Earlier I had referred to hon. Prime Minister's statement where I said that consensus needed to be developed so far as other backward classes were concerned.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Has the Government gone into the recommendations of the Mandal Commission ? If so, has it taken any decision on that ?

MR. SPEAKER : He has already replied that.

Efforts to tap Tourist Markets of Europe and U.S.A.

***367. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether special efforts are being made to tap tourist markets of Europe and U.S.A. to increase tourist traffic to this country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.