

is increasing and some teaching shops are also being opened. Schools are opened in houses also. There are schools which do not have play-grounds of their own. Do you not think that it is essential for a school to have a play-ground? Schools have no play-grounds for the children.

[English]

We should think about it on those lines. That is my only suggestion. You have to do it, the Education Department itself should do it. Don't allow recognition to those schools which have no playgrounds. There should be no recognition for them. They should be banned.

**SHRI MUKUL WASNIK :** Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the Indian Olympic Association has approached the Government to permit it to extend an invitation to hold the 1992 Olympic games in India and if so, the decision of the Government in this matter.

**SHRI R.K. JAIHCANDRA SINGH :** Sir, a letter has come from the IOA. The Government is considering it. All aspects will have to be considered before we take a final decision.

**SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY :** Sir, during the ASIAD we suggested certain games to be distributed areas to different so that stadia could be built in other areas also. But that was not done. It is an eye-wash and I did not know whether for political purposes they may be used or not, but there is a feeling in the minds of the people that as they are lying idle, Government is considering to convert them into wild life sanctuary. Is that true?

**SHRI RAJIV GANDHI :** The hon. Member will be most welcome to come to the stadia !

#### Resistance by Bangladesh for Erection of Fence

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\*369. **SHRI G.G. SWELL :**

**SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOJ ALI KHAN :** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bangladesh Rifles have

been arming and training villagers on their side to violently resist the erection of the Assam-Bangladesh fence;

(b) whether Bangladesh has been constructing watch-towers on its side of the fence; and

(c) whether Government will go ahead with the erection of the fence as scheduled?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :**

(a) Government have no such reports.

(b) While reports have been received that Bangladesh intend to construct a number of watch towers on its side, so far only one watch tower has been constructed by them.

(c) Yes, Sir.

**SHRI G.G. SWELL :** Sir, in connection with this, I am not quite convinced with what the Minister said that they had not received such reports because all that has been belied by the fact that they have rushed additional contingents of Border Security Forces to the Bangladesh border with Tibet. Over the question of construction of a dam, the Bangladeshies are raising a dam which threatened to flood our part of the country, and when our workers were doing some work there, they said that they should stop the work under threat of dire consequences. Now, before I come to that, I would like to mention that yesterday I received a letter from a lady living on the border of Bangladesh, from my State in which she said that she was going from one market to another within our territory. She was intercepted by some unruly elements from Bangladesh. She was robbed of everything including her watch and stabbed. She was taken for dead by those elements. But she did not die. Some people took her to Shillong where she had been treated in a hospital and fortunately she seems to be well on the road to recovery. Now, this sort of thing does not happen once a while. This is not an isolated incident. It happens frequently. Bangladeshis come at will and take away betel leaves of the people from the garden. They take away betel nut. They take away shingles. They take away

forest produce. They take away limestone and what not. It seems there is not much of protection for the people in our border area from the security forces. I would like to mention this to the Home Minister and request him to send some instructions to our security forces to be more vigilant and to ensure the protection of the villagers.

Now, Sir, the hon. Minister has said that there is only one watchtower that is being constructed. But is it a fact that they have rushed special contingent of the Border Security Force to the Bangladesh border with Tripura ?

**SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA :** As regards tower, I have already said that one tower has so far been constructed by Bangladesh. It is understood that 16 watch towers have reportedly been approved for erection. Definite information is not available about the remaining 7 towers. But, Sir, it is very difficult to object to the Bangladesh Government constructing watch towers because the hon. Member should know that if these are constructed, they are beyond 150 yards from the border. From our side also, BSF have constructed 105 observation towers and they have proposed to construct a few more towers. These towers have been constructed within 150 yards from the border line in West Bengal, Tripura and Assam sectors.....

**SHRI G.G. SWELL :** We know all these details. My question is, whether you have rushed a special contingent of the Border Security Force and if so, does it not belie your statement that there is no such preparation on the Bangladesh side of the border to resist violently the construction of fence ?

**SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA :** Sir, 27 Battalions of BSF each having 500 personnel have been put on border in Tripura, West Bengal, Meghalaya and Assam.

As regards the construction of road and fencing no doubt, the fencing on the border would provide physical barriers. But in order that it proves more effective, we have already decided to construct.....

**SHRI G.G. SWELL :** I would like

the senior Minister to say whether they have rushed a contingent...

**THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN) :** Sir, may I supplement what my colleague has said ? It is a fact that Bangladeshis are trying to threaten any activity on our side of either construction of road or going in for fencing of the area. Some kind of a training is being given there. We are getting very stray report from that side though unconfirmed. Some kind of training is being given to some village people there and additional forces have also been put by them on the border. Similarly, we are intensifying our activity also. More Assam Rifle units are also being raised. The BSF battalions have also been sent to that area. We can assure the hon. Member that we will take all the precautions which, in fact, are called for.

**SHRI G.G. SWELL :** I am happy that the senior Minister has confirmed that there is some such thing going on. I congratulate him, he being a man—I think, you are bigger, more generous, more understanding, more forthcoming and all that....

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER :** I think, I will take objection to that.

**PROF. K.K. TEWARY :** He should withdraw this remark...*(Interruptions)*

**MR SPEAKER :** Protest upheld.

**PROF. K.K. TEWARY :** This remark should be withdrawn. This is male chauvinism.

**SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI :** I am on a point of order, Sir.

*[Translation]*

I object to the remarks made by the hon. Member. He should withdraw them.

*[English]*

**MR. SPEAKER :** Are you also protesting ?

*[Translation]*

Just listen to me. Why do you feel shy ?

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : He should withdraw his remarks.

[English]

SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA : I do think this will not go into record.

SHRI DINESH SINGH : He said only to attract attention.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : It should be expunged not only from the record but from the mind also.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : As a compromise, let man go on record and woman be expunged !

SHRI G.G. SWELL : If my information is correct, since last March, the construction of a fence on this border—not only Assam, you are now going to construct a fence on the border with Mizoram, Tripura also and all over—has stopped. I do not know what progress has been made. Although we have seen statements by the Prime Minister reiterating that the construction will go on, I am a little perturbed about this question of a fence. You do not have only the land border. You have so many rivers passing. What are you going to do about it ? You cannot have a fence over these rivers. There are boats coming in. The Bangladeshis do come to our borders and other areas in the boats or Canoes. What sort of protection are you going to give to that sort of a thing ? I would like to know whether you have a time schedule within which you are going to complete this fence.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : In fact, the CPWD has been asked to have a complete survey of the area and the kind of protection which is required in different areas. The fencing will be undertaken as soon as this survey is completed. So far as the river portion is concerned, I do not have the necessary information with me just now. But I will pass on the information to the hon. Member. It will be very difficult to prescribe any time schedule in this because, ultimately, it is a very difficult terrain in which the entire work

has not to be done. But we will try to expedite the whole thing.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAR SINGH RATHORE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, is it a fact that the wire being used for fencing at the border will not last more than a year or two on account of rains ? Secondly, the fence is being erected 100 to 200 metres deep in our territory as they are not allowing you to erect the fence at the border line. Will they not occupy that portion of our land ?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : Both these points will be kept in view. The fencing will not be so near as to provoke them to resort to firing and at the same time it should not be too deep in our territory as to put us at a disadvantage. Their plan, as we see today, is likely to be provocative. Our Foreign Secretary is going to Bangladesh this month. This matter will be discussed there at a very high level and efforts will be made to carry on this work further.

We have two or three alternatives with us as far as the question of how long the fencing will last is concerned. The first is the construction of a road, the second is to erect fencing. Thirdly, our Para-Military Forces stationed there may be asked to ensure that nobody is allowed to indulge in any provocative act. This work is also being pursued further.

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : There is a massive build up of Bangladesh rifles on the Tripura border and with the assistance of this Bangladesh rifles build up and by using those people to threaten the Indian side, they are raising the embankment from the specified limit of 75' even as high as 200 or 300' and as a result the water is flowing back into the forest areas of Tripura and 40 KM of the area is supposedly already inundated.

The second part of my question is whether the proposed fencing that has been put up between Bangladesh and India is going to be like the one which is between East and West Germanies.



**SHRI S.B. CHAVAN :** So far as the first part of the question is concerned, I have to say that when the Foreign Secretary visits Bangladesh, the issues which he proposes to take up with the Bangladesh Government include some of these issues. We will first try to find out as to how they react to it and thereafter we should have to decide the further course of action.

**PROF. K.K. TEWARY :** After the decision to erect this fencing along the border with Bangladesh, there have been skirmishes and tensions. I would like to know precisely two pieces of information from the hon. Minister. One is that when the Government took up this matter namely, the construction of an embankment across the border with Bangladesh, the Bangladesh Government perhaps informed our Government that the money that they are receiving for this construction including watch towers is coming from Saudi Arabia and the Government in Saudi Arabia has promised this money over a time-frame and unless they go ahead with this construction, the money will not be forthcoming.

My second question is, as the tensions are mounting, the intensification of terrorist activities in Tripura by TNV volunteers especially has simultaneously become very acute. I would like to know whether this has anything to do with the intensification of terrorist activities by TNV in Tripura and whether the Government of Bangladesh is trying to help them surreptitiously in some manner to divert our attention from major issues confronting these two countries.

**SHRI S.B. CHAVAN :** About the first part of the question, I would require notice. I do not think it will be possible to give any information at this stage.

To the second part of the question, I have to say that we do not have any such information as the hon. Member is giving here.

**SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY :** The Home Minister said that on fixing the time-schedule for construction of barbed wire fencing, survey is necessary.

But the Home Minister on some occasion reported to the House that the work

of barbed fencing has begun but it has to be stopped because of firing incident. Do we, therefore, take it that the work of fencing had earlier begun without survey ?

Secondly, the firing incident took place in March last year. Why this work has not been resumed during the last one year ?

**SHRI S.B. CHAVAN :** Last year some pillars were being constructed by CPWD and this firing incident took place and three or four people were killed on our side and thereafter, in fact, we wanted to go ahead with it but it is a fact that the survey of the entire area has not been completed.

At least for the time being I cannot categorically state whether the survey was completed in that part of the area where the work was started. At least so far as my information goes, they had started the work but because of the firing incident, they had to stop the same. Now there is larger provocative activity on the side of Bangladesh, and that is why we have thought it necessary that, before we resume the work we, may take up at the highest level and find out from them as to what attitude they are going to adopt. Certainly, thereafter, we will decide our strategy.

#### Review of Tribal Sub Plan

**\*370. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO :** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the review of Tribal Sub-Plan of Sixth Five Year Plan has been done;

(b) if so, the achievement made therein programme-wise and policy-wise;

(c) the strategy adopted during Sixth Plan for allocation and administration; and

(d) the proposed changed allocation and administration policies during Seventh Plan therefor ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI-MATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :** (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.