

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: Shri Shankaracharya has denied his own statement. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: At least try to listen. You are not accustomed to listening.

[English]

How do I know it?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: The second thing is, two persons in Rajasthan had gone to the court *(Interruptions)* and it is also pending in the Supreme Court against Shri Shankaracharya. It is subjudice now and we are just watching what is the judgment of the Supreme Court and the other court. So, it has already gone to the court.

MR. SPEAKER: We cannot allow discrimination.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: We cannot allow discrimination.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I asked the question about Swami Agnivesh. It is part of the question.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Don't make a noise.

[English]

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: This country is not governed by the preachings of people like Shri Shankaracharya. It is our country which is supreme. In this country there is no untouchability, Shankaracharya or no Shankaracharya. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: What about Swami Agnivesh?

MR. SPEAKER: He has asked about Swami Agnivesh.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: Government has given all protection to

Swami Agnivesh. But, while he was going, there was some stone-pelting and there was tension and Section 144 was promulgated. In the Mandir area also, there were demonstrations and 1,000 or 2,000 people and gathered. Seeing all these things, the State Government thought it wise just not to allow him to go further. He was persuaded not to proceed further as there may be internal law and order situation.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: This is because of the class character of this Government *(Interruptions)*. It is unfortunate that after 40 years of independence, Swami Agnivesh has not entered the temple. I am putting the supplementary. It is unfortunate after 40 years of independence, Swami Agnivesh had to take a march to enter the temple. *(Interruptions)* Has the Government of Rajasthan done everything to enable him to enter into the temple? May I know whether it has been taken up with the Government of Rajasthan and action has been taken against the Government of Rajasthan?

MR. SPEAKER: It is all irrelevant.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: It is enough.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Strike by Tamil Nadu Government Employees and Teachers

*204. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tamil Nadu Government employees and teachers were on strike recently;

(b) if so, details of their demands; and

(c) the steps taken to settle the dispute?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main demands of employees and teachers were (i) Pay parity with Central Government staff; (ii) One month pay as bonus; (iii) to treat the teaching and non-teaching staff in private schools and colleges as Government employees and grant of all concessions eligible to Government Employees and Teachers; (iv) grant of medical allowances and to extend the House Rent Allowance to all the areas and (v) to grant regular pay scale to all teachers and government employees on consolidated pay system and to appoint the part-time teachers as full-time teachers.

(c) Consequent on the decisions taken on 15/7/1988 with the office bearers of the Associations, a considerable section of Government employees returned to work on 19/7/1988 itself. All the other reported for duty on 26/7/1988 consequent on the decisions taken on 22/7/1988.

Information from States

*210. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK:
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:

Will the minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure followed by Union Government for obtaining information from the State Governments on matters of law and order or of general administration in the State;

(b) the levels at which such information is sought; and

(c) the circumstances in which any investigating or other agency of the Union Government can directly obtain information from the State without involving any political or administrative level of the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): (a) As per well established practice, fortnightly Confidential Reports on matters of law and order and general situation are sent by the State Government to the Central Government

(b) The reports are sent at the Government level by officers authorised to send such communications.

(c) As a normal practice, Investigating or other agencies of the Union Government constantly interact with their counter parts in the State Government on matters of mutual interest.

Compensation to Indian Victims in Shooting Down of Iranian Airliner

*211. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI:

Will the minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians who lost their lives in the American shooting down of an Iranian airlines over the Persian Gulf in the first week of July, 1988;

(b) the details of compensation they are entitled to and actually received by them so far from the Iranian air lites company and the Government of Iran; and

(c) the amount of compensation offered/paid by the US Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI) (a) Ten Indian national lost their lives in the incident

(b) and (c). There has been no indication so far that Iranair or the Government of Iran plan to pay compensation on the basis of their responsibility for the disaster. The United State Government on the other hand has expressed its readiness to pay compensation to the legal heirs of the deceased passengers without any admission of liability. The investigation into the responsibility for the shooting down of the aircraft has not so far been formally