

**PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages in the West Bengal where Family Planning Centres have been set up;

(b) whether any survey has been made so far to assess the impact of the family planning on low-income groups in the state; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING, AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) : (a) 1823.

(b) No survey has been made by this Department to assess the impact of the family planning on low-income groups.

(c) Does not arise.

**Central Government Funds to P. T. I**

S.N.Q. 6. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN :  
 SHRI A. SREDDHARAN :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have given some funds to the P. T. I. for building construction and also for smooth functioning of the organisation;

(b) whether certain amount is also given to the P. T. I. by the public sector;

(c) if so, the details regarding the amount given by the Central Government as also by the public sector separately;

(d) whether Government have received some complaints regarding the misuse of funds by the P. T. I.; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND COMMUNICATIONS ( SHRI SATYA NARAYAN SINGH ) : (a) to (c). Government have sanctioned a loan of Rs. 55 lakhs to the Press Trust of India for construction of their building at 4, Parliament Street, New Delhi. With the permission of Government the Press Trust of India has also taken a loan of Rs. 25 lakhs from the Bank of India, Bombay, for the same purpose.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Certain allegations of misuse of funds against the General Manager of P. T. I. and Contractors and Architects have been made. The matter is receiving consideration.

12.02 hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**APPEALS TO GOVERNMENT BY FORMER REVOLUTIONARIES AND FREEDOM FIGHTERS FOR MITIGATION OF THEIR UPIRINGS**

SHRI K. N. TIWARY (Bettiah) :  
 Mr. Speaker, 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 :-

"The reported appeals made repeatedly to the Government by the former revolutionaries and freedom fighters to mitigate some aspects of their sufferings."

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF STATE, DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (SHRI K.C. PANT) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, representations have been received from former revolutionaries and freedom fighters mainly for financial assistance and sanction of pension. The responsibility for granting relief and rehabilitating the freedom fighters is primarily that of the State

Governments who have formulated their own schemes of relief and render assistance to freedom fighters in the form of pension, cash grants, loans, and educational concessions to their children. However, in individual cases of hardship financial assistance is given by the Central Government from the Home Minister's Discretionary Grant.

2. Government of India in 1957 sanctioned life-time pension to the descendants of a few prominent leaders of the 1857 freedom struggle. From 2nd October, 1969, the Government have implemented a scheme for the grant of life-time pension to deserving freedom fighters who had suffered imprisonment for a period of not less than 5 years, including a period in the Andaman Cellular jail, and also to their families where the freedom fighters themselves are no longer alive. On representations from freedom fighters, Government have under examination the question of extending this scheme to those who had not completed 5 years of imprisonment, including a period in the Andaman Cellular jail. Suggestions have also been made for the extension of the scheme to freedom fighters who had suffered imprisonment in other jails outside India and those who had suffered long imprisonment in jails on the mainland. These suggestions are receiving Government's consideration.

श्री क. ना. तिवारी : मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि सरकार इन सुभावों की ओर ध्यान दे रही है। हम को एक ही बात जाननी है। हम इस के लिये बहुत आभारी हैं कि अंडमन के प्रिजिनर्स को काफी पेंशन वगैरह दी गई है। बाकी लोगों को कब तक दी जायेगी ? आई. एन. ए. मूवमेंट के जो ऐसे लोग हैं जो बूढ़े हो गये हैं या जिनकी फैमिली के पास कोई साधन नहीं है, उनके बारे में कब तक तय किया जायेगा और पेंशन दी जायेगी; खासकर ऐसे लोगों को जो काम करने लायक नहीं है क्या प्राबिबल गवर्नमेंट्स को यह बात कही जायेगी कि जो

लोग अब काम करने लायक नहीं हैं, जिनकी उम्र काफी हो गई है, कम से कम उन को जो मिदनापुर, मांडले जेलों में रहे हैं और कूका आन्दोलनों के हैं, उनकी पेंशनों का प्रबन्ध किया जाये ?

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पन्त : जहां तक अंडमन के कैदियों का प्रश्न है उस में अधिकतर लोगों के बारे में मैं कह सकता हूं कि कुछ न कुछ दे दिया गया है पेंशन के रूप में। अब तक 230 अजियां सरकार को मिली हैं और इधर कुछ समय से नई अजियां आनी बन्द हो गई हैं। इससे लगत है कि अधिकतर लोग जो अजियां देना चाहते थे वह दे चुके। लेकिन अगर और अजियां आयेंगी तो हम उन पर विचार करेंगे। इन 230 में से 189 कैसेज में पेंशन सेंशन हो चुकी है। चौदह ऐसे कैसेज हैं जिन की पेंशन अभी सेंशन नहीं हुई है क्योंकि उन की आर्थिक स्थिति अच्छी थी, और 27 ऐसे कैसेज हैं जो विचाराधीन हैं। जिन कैसेज में उनकी आर्थिक स्थिति अच्छी थी उन पर भी हम बाद में विचार करेंगे। उन लोगों को पहले दे देंगे जिनकी आर्थिक स्थिति अच्छी नहीं है। जहां तक आई. एन. ए. का प्रश्न है उसमें जो फौजी लोग थे, जो कि पहले फौज में थे हिन्दुस्तान की और आई. एन. ए. में चले गये थे, उनको पेंशन देने का निर्णय किया गया है। जो सिविलियन्स थे, जो कि आई. एन. ए. में गये, उनके बारे में निर्णय किया गया है कि जैसे अन्य स्वतन्त्रता संग्राम के सेनानियों को दिया जाता है उनको भी दिया जायेगा।

श्री क. ना. तिवारी : कूका और बाहर के दूसरे जेलों में जो थे, जैसे मांडले के जो लोग थे, उनके बारे में मंत्री महोदय क्या कहते हैं ?

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पन्त : मैं ने पहले ही कहा कि जो बाहर के जेलों में रहे हुए हैं उनपर भी हम विचार कर रहे हैं।

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta—North-East): Government is considering the cases, and by the sheer efflux of time, most of the freedom-fighters would die away, and so, Government should expedite this business, specially in view of the fact that we learn, for example, that some of the political sufferers of the Hissar district in Haryana were promised some land by the President himself in 1966, but they did not get it and they had to do *dharna*, a procedure which is derogatory to the self-respect of people in normal circumstances, before the residence of the Prime Minister. In spite of that, nothing seems to have been done.

We also get from time to time letters and copies of applications sent to the Ministry from old freedom fighters who say that the quantum of assistance given to them by the State Government is so low that they just find it impossible to carry on, and they want some sort of uniformisation, some kind of co-ordination, that is to say, of the rates of assistance to be given to different categories of freedom fighters, whether of the INA or others.

In view of these things, the delay in the case of the Hissar political sufferers about the conferment on them of land by orders of the President himself, and the delay in co-ordinating matters—I find, for example, a letter from Ranglal Ganguli who says he suffered ten years imprisonment and he wants Rs. 200 per month but he is not paid that and the Prime Minister's Secretariat is doing nothing about the application—and it is rather derogatory to the self-respect of the freedom fighters who have to *apply* to Government over and over again, may I know if Government would take steps on their own to find out the situation in regard to these people with the assistance of State Governments and evolve a scheme which could be implemented without delay, because delay means the passing away of these freedom fighters who cannot live for even ?

SHRI K. C. PANT: The attitude of the Central Government earlier in this matter was that this was entirely a matter for the State Governments to attend to.

In 1950, when this matter was first raised, this was decided and the then Prime Minister made a statement in the House that it was primarily for the State Governments to give assistance to indigent families of political sufferers. However, in individual cases where assistance was immediately required as circumstances warranted, the Central Government also would help.

Subsequently, the descendants of a few of the 1857 martyrs were given certain lifetime pensions. Subsequently, those who had spent at least some time in the Andaman jail—a period of at least five years—were given assistance.

Thus the Central Government have been progressively enlarging their interest in the freedom fighters, but the fact remains that even now, primarily it is for the State Governments, and they have evolved various schemes. I can go into details, but perhaps Prof. Mukerjee is not so much concerned with details as with the fact of different States giving different quanta of assistance. That is a fact. Some of the States have been fairly generous in their consideration of this matter; some have not been able to provide as much. It is for State Governments to consider this matter. At the most, I can convey to them Prof. Mukerjee's suggestion that they should try to have a uniform pattern. But it is primarily for them, and they have evolved different schemes.

As for Shri Ganguly, I do not know; it is an individual case.

SHRI RANGA (Srikakulam) : These are brought to your attention.

SHRI K. C. PANT : But from the way he put it, I am not sure whether any part of that incarceration was spent in the Andaman jail. As at present, the scheme does not provide for the Central Government to give assistance in such cases. This could be the only reason for our not taking action. Otherwise, our natural sympathies are with them. Where we can give any assistance under the scheme, we do not hesitate to do so.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE : What about the Hissar business? They had to do *dhrna* before the Prime Minister's residence. They were given an assurance in 1969, but nothing seems to have been done.

SHRI K. C. PANT : I shall look into it.

SHRI RANGA : He should broaden the scheme and not rely on the earlier formula.

SHRIMATI SUCHETA KRIPALANI (GONDA) : In every country, the freedom fighters, war veterans and families of martyres are taken care of and honoured by a grateful nation. That is the least one can do to them. I am afraid in our country our policy of looking after and honouring these people has been very fitful and very inadequate, and nothing substantial has been done in a proper way.

Just now, Shri Mukherjee very rightly pointed out the fact that so far Central Government's attitude has been that this is a matter of States concern and therefore the States will manage. I know that in every State they some scheme or other, but the States, with their limited budgets, cannot afford to give much. There are very hard cases where substantial assistance is needed.

For instance, the mother of Chandra Sekhar Azad, after much trouble, got Rs. 20 per month pension first five months before she died. I would like to know from the Government what Bhagat Singh's mother is getting or the dependants of his other companions, whether we are looking after them. It should not be responsibility of the States. They laid down their lives for the country, they got us freedom. It is the responsibility of the Centre. It is also very necessary that there should be a uniform policy followed. The States and the Centre can sit together and decide what policy to follow, and a substantial amount should be allotted for this.

Secondly, I do not understand this distinction that the hon. Minister is making that only if a person has spent five years in the Andaman jail, he qualifies for

pension. Any political prisoner who has spent five years in any jail should be entitled to get pension.

Many of them do not want, do not need it, do not care to take it, but those who are in need, who would like to get it, should get it, and not get it after a lot of delay after humiliating efforts on the part of others.

It is shocking to learn that a leader of the status of Miss Leela Roy, who would never approach anybody, was very hard pressed for money before she died.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai) : We refused any help from this Government, I was one of her followers. We ourselves contributed.

SHRIMATI SUCHETA KRIPALANI : We have received several letters recently from an association of freedom fighters who have been agitating for sometimes. They have adumbrated a scheme by which they are going to build a hostel for these revolutionaries. Many of them are bachelors, they never had any time for domestic life, there is nobody to take care of them, they are living in very miserable conditions. This association has brought out Scheme to build a hostel where these people can be taken care of and looked after. I would like to know from the Government what substantial assistance they are getting. In fact, the Government should bear the entire cost. There are many people who need assistance and are getting a pittance of Rs. 15 or Rs. 20 which is not enough. Some need proper medical care Government should come out with a declaration that they would take care of all these people.

Then, I would like to raise two more points about the INA. The Ministers told us that the military personnel of the INA are getting pension, but it is a well known fact that there were many civilians who joined the INA Army. Twenty six thousand people laid down their lives for the INA. I would like to know what is happening to these civilians who entered the INA, what happens to their families, to those who would like to get assistance. Is there a scheme with the Government?

[Shri Samar Guha]

Lastly, I would like to raise the case Shri Mukerjee mentioned. This case was brought to my notice by no less a person than Gopal Singh Qaumi. He has been in prison 17 times and for 13 years altogether. He said that in 1955 these political sufferers, 440 in number were given some land in Hissar. It was banjar land infested with snakes, full of thorny bushes, but they all put whatever little money they had, and with their own labour redeemed the land. It is a very long story. To cut it short when there was President's rule in 1966, the President issued an order that these lands should be given to them perpetuity, that the proprietary rights should be transferred to them, on the condition that pay Rs. 5,000 each, which they are willing to pay, but nothing has happened. They had to undertake *dharna* outside the Prime Minister's house after three years. She gave them all sorts of assurances, but nothing has been done so far.

They feel this is being done on regional and communal considerations. When they have redeemed that land by their labour why can't the Government do this little bit, especially when they are going to pay for the land, and let them live in peace?

SHRI K. C. PANT : On the general question of Policy about the responsibility of the states and the Centre, I have already given whatever information I have.

SHRI RANGA : Why not charge the policy now ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : I have also indicated the direction in which we are considering a change. In some cases, the Centre helps the States directly. For instance, in the matter of assistance for the education of children of freedom fighters, the Ministry of Education have a scheme for giving educational concession to them. The expenditure is initially incurred by the State Government and is shared between the Government of India and the State Government on fifty-fifty

basis. In the case of Union Territories, the entire cost is borne by the centre.

The hon. member asked why Andaman is treated separately. The Andaman cellular jail has a history of its own. It has a different connotation in the freedom struggle and its impact has been different. Those who have participated in that struggle know very well what it meant to go to the Andaman cellular jail. To come under that scheme, so far it has been obligatory that a freedom fighter should have spent some part of the five year period in the cellular jail, not the whole of it necessarily but at least a part of it. Now we are considering the other possibility of extending it. In fact, the hon. member's suggestion that a five year period spent anywhere in jail may be considered is exactly what we are considering. We have written to all the State Governments and asked them how many cases will be involved. Some State Governments have replied, some have not. But we are considering it.

She said it is insulting and humiliating for freedom fighters to apply. I quite appreciate that sentiment. I realise they are very self-respecting people. But there should be some method of letting the Government know that they are in trouble so that we can take up their cases. In the case of Trailokynath Chakarvarti; who was recently here, we came to know that he had certain difficulties. We did not ask for any application. We sanctioned Rs. 5000 straightaway. Unfortunately he died. Now we are considering giving that money to his grand-nephew if that possible. So, it is not that we call for application necessarily, but we must have the information. That is obvious.

About the hostel, I do not have any information.

SHRIMATI SUCHETA KRIPALANI : They have their own organisation and they are raising funds. I can direct the papers to him if he wants.

SHRI K. C. PANT : Yes, I can comment on it offhand. She said, Rs. 10 to 15 is not enough and it should be raised. I do know that some State Governments

have raised it. I know in UP they had raised it. I hope they had raised it during her Chief Ministership. Some State Governments may not have raised it. But I entirely agree that Rs. 10 to 15 today is certainly not enough; it is a pittance and it should be raised. But it is for the State Governments to consider this matter.

About what has been done about the INA personnel and the *dharn*, I had already indicated the position.

SHRIMATI SUCHETA KRIPALANI : With your permission, may I lay these papers about Shri Gopal Singh Qaumi on the Table ?

Mr. SPEAKER : You can hand them over to the Minister.

It is not only a case of Shri Gopal Singh Qaumi; there are others also. All of us have lived with them in jail and we know it.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Before I begin I will beg of you a few minutes indulgence in honour of the martyrs who have given all of their freedom of this country.

Mr. SPEAKER : I have all respect for his eloquence. But this indulgence should not be at the cost of relevancy.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : It is a well-known saying that the blood of the martyr is seed of the church. Today the church of Indian freedom is losing its elan because we have forgotten to honour our martyrs. Our patriotism is at a low ebb because we have failed to remember the suffering the sacrifice and the dedication of our revolutionaries and freedom-fighters. Today the spirit of Indian nationalism has come to the point of Nadir because we have forgotten that it is the blood of the martyrs on which the edifice of national freedom has been built. It is a matter of shame for us that the Minister of State today stated that he has not any papers. But I know not once but many

times did representatives of the revolutionaries meet the former Home Minister. They held their conference in Delhi, not once but several times, and they presented not one memorandum but several memoranda, enumerating all their demands. There are three types of freedom-fighters—firstly, the revolutionaries from the day of 1857 to 1947; secondly Gandhian freedom-fighters and, thirdly, member of the Indian National army under Netaji Subhash Chander Bose.

Government have refused to accede to their demand for financial assistance. In fact, I would say that the term "financial assistance" or "pension" is a dishonour to them. There is no question of charity, gift or pension. There is a word in Bangla, *veer pranali*; let us call it honorarium for the honour of the national fighters who have rendered service to the cause of national emancipation. Therefore, it should be called national honorarium, not pension or any kind of gift.

MR. SPEAKER : Let him come to the question.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : I am coming to the point. I beg of you with folded hands to be a little more indulgent.

Some two years back the Home Minister sent a team of Members of Parliament to Andamans to suggest to the government ways and means of helping the Andaman prisoners and preserving the memorial of Netaji, the cellular jail, and the two islands, Swaraj and Shaheed islands, which were the first liberated territory of India. Those Members have submitted a memorandum to the Government to which there was no reply. It has been kept in cold storage. I would like to take this opportunity to pay a tribute to the United Front Government which have shown courage. They have raised the age for the freedom fighters to join government service. Since they are joining very late they can either complete thirty years of service or get extension up to 65 years.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU (Diamond Harbour) : Jyoti Basu.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Not Jyoti Basu but Sudhir Banerjee.

They have renamed Dalhousie Square as Dinesh-Badal-Benoy Square; they have renamed Anderson House as Bhabani Bhavan; they have renamed Ochterlony Monument as Shahid Minar. They have removed all the statues of the old imperialist rulers and others of that legacy.

They say, they have no money to meet the demands of revolutionaries. At the time of transfer of power they gave millions of rupees to the old ICS men and the British army men. Every year you are increasing dearness allowance, taking India as a whole and both the Central and State Governments, over Rs. 200 crores for your employees. If you really want to fulfil the demand of the revolutionaries, give them honorarium. I have calculated that it will not cost you more than Rs. 2 crores a year. You are sitting on the edifice of freedom built by the blood of martyrs. Can you not spend Rs. 2 crores a year for them ?

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Why not ?

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Most of them are dying. At least for ten years you can do it.

Now, let me summarise the categorical demands that they have made. They are : (1) national honorarium in the form of life long pension to all freedom fighters and revolutionaries who suffered continuously or intermittently over five years either in Andaman Jail or in other jails or in detention or in imprisonment as has been extended to the prisoners of Andamans; (2) to extend the same facility or national honorarium to the parents, wives and other dependants of the martyrs' families; (3) to provide scope either for completion of service of 30 years or to

extend the age of 65 years for those who have joined Government service very late, as has been done in West Bengal; (4) to provide national homes for old and infirm freedom fighters and revolutionaries; (5) to give free medical and educational facilities to the dependants of revolutionaries and freedom fighters; (6) to give financial assistance to freedom fighters and revolutionaries for self-employment; (7) to extend the same facilities to INA men who joined the Azad Hind Fauj movement. As I have already said; 26,000 of them have sacrificed their lives.

Another demand of theirs to maintain national honour is : (1) to build a national martyrs' memorial in Delhi; (2) to set up a committee of historians to write the history of the Indian revolutionary movement; (3) to write a history of Azad Hind revolution under Netaji; (4) to preserve Andaman Cellular Jail and to set up a national monument there; (5) to complete a directory of national martyrs, as has been started by Kali Charan Ghosh under the title "Roll of Honour"; (6) to place plaques in all jails where martyrs embraced the gallows and to request the Pakistan Government to set up memorials in Lahore Jail in honour of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev, and in Chittagong Jail in honour of Surya Sen and others; and, lastly, to build a memorial at Balasore. Also, what we had to do in memory of Rash Behari Bose was that Hardinge Bridge should have been renamed as Rash Behari Bose Bridge.

MR. SPEAKER : We are talking of living people to mitigate their suffering.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : I want to know whether they are going to consider this memorandum that they have submitted.

Lastly, Government has tried to transfer their responsibility to State Governments. Did these martyrs sacrifice their lives for the freedom of the States or for the freedom of India as a whole ? If they did so for India as a whole, it is

the duty of the Government. Is the Government going to convene a meeting under the Home Ministry of Home Ministers of all States and representatives of revolutionaries to find out a solution and honourable means of giving them honorarium and of honouring the memory of martyrs ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : The hon. Member has made various suggestions. We shall look into the suggestions that he has made. I shall only try to touch on some of the points on which I have information with me.

SHRI RANGA : A memorandum was submitted to you.

SHRI K. C. PANT : Yes.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Not one, many memoranda.

SHRI K. C. PANT : He took objection to my saying that only a few cases had been left. I meant only a few cases of these who are eligible on the present scheme. There may be others who may not come under that scheme but who may be deserving of assistance. I do not rule that out. I said, only a few cases were left under the present scheme and I gave the number of cases also, that is, 27 cases. Then, I said, if more come, we will consider them.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : That is not the point. A general principle should be laid down that those who suffered imprisonment, either detention or imprisonment in the Andaman jail should be intitled. This will not cost you more Rs. 2 crore a year.

SHRI K. C. PANT : I am coming to that; I am going by your statement.

The second thing he referred to was about the Andaman jail and the suggestions were made to preserve that jail. He referred to having proper memorial. That is a subject of ministry of Works and

Housing. I have found the facts from them. A plaque has been put in the Cellular jail with the names of the freedom fighters who were in that jail. The question of preservation and beautification of the Cellular jail is under consideration. In fact, after he had given the memorandum in which this idea was contained, we are looking into this as to how best it can be done.

Then, Sir, I never said that we had no money. I never said that. It is just that the States have the primary responsibility. That has been the approach of the Government. He should not think that the States have not done anything. I would like to give some figures that have been able to collect.....

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Please don't give those figures. I know they are Rs. 10 or Rs. 15 or Rs. 20 or like that. Please don't utter those things. It is a shame to all of us, to the whole country, to the whole of nation and to the conscience of the nation.

SHRI K. C. PANT : With your permission, Sir, I repeat that they are trying to do something. Now I will give you the figures: Assam—3335; Bihar—393; Punjab—4096; Orissa—1450; West Bengal—2372; Tamil Nadu—3600; Madhya Pradesh—350; Rajasthan—577.

I have not got the information in respect of other States.

AN HON. MEMBER : What is the figure in respect of Behar ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : It is 393. On the face of it, it seems to be low. I will check up this figure.

The hon. Member has made a suggestion that it should be extended to the other jails from the main land also. I have gone beyond that. We will consider also those who spent some time in jails abroad say for instance, Portugal and Mandalay. We will consider Goa freedom fighter also. This in the final stage of consideration. I hope that a decision will be taken very soon.



SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Two decades of our national freedom have already passed. But we have not done anything to national martyrs.

SHRI K. C. PANT : Then, he raised a point about the history of freedom struggle and about those who participated in it and also about the directory. So far as the directory goes, the Minister of Education sponsored a scheme by which financial assistance was given to State Governments to prepare a list of freedom fighters. After that, they propose to bring out an all-India directory. The work is in progress. However, the compilation of the directory of freedom fighters will be responsibility of the States. The Ministry of education has brought but a volume of "who is who of martyrs of freedom movement, 1847 onwards."

They propose to bring out two more volumes in due course.

SHRI RANGA : The hon. member suggested a national honorarium to be given to these people. That was applauded by all sections of the house. The hon. Minister seems to have missed it.

SHRI K. C. PANT : He said, "don't call it financial assistance. Call it a national honorarium." That is a matter of nomenclature. That can be considered.

श्री एस० एम० जोशी (पूना) : यों तो कई भी जो मार्टियर है या अरनी आजादी के लिए कुछ कुर्बानी दी है उसके आत्म सम्मान के खिलाफ यह बात है कि वह किसी हुकूमत के पास जाय कि उसे धन आदि की मदद दी जाय क्योंकि जब उन्होंने काम किया तो देश के लिए किया था। लेकिन हम लोग जोकि यहाँ पर बँटे हुए हैं उनका कर्तव्य है कि वह अपने फर्ज को निभायें। लेकिन यह ठीक है कि मार्टियरों का यह कर्तव्य नहीं है कि सरकार के पास मागने के लिए जायें। इसलिए मैं समझता हूँ कि इतना कह देना कि यह स्टेट गवर्नमेंट की जिम्मे-

दारी है इतना भर कह देना केन्द्रीय सरकार के लिए काफी नहीं है। अब बहुत दिनों के बाद यह कहा गया है कि हम भी कुछ उसका बोझ उठा रहे हैं तो मैं गृह मंत्रालय और वित्त मंत्रालय से जानना चाहूँगा कि आगल सालाना केन्द्रीय सरकार की तरफ से कितनी धनराशि उसमें जाती है ?

जो आंकड़े अभी बतनाये गये उन से पता चलता है कि राज्य सरकार वाले भी इस सवाल की तरफ जितना ध्यान जना चाहिए उतना नहीं देते हैं। कुछ दिन हुए जब मैं बिहार में घूम रहा था कई लोग मुझ से आकर मिले थे। इसके अनावा हमारे पास उनके पत्र आते रहते हैं जिनके पीछे यह भावना होती है कि मेरे जैसे लोगों को जो प्रतिष्ठा मिलनी है यानी पार्लियामेंट की मददस्यता और उस के चयने अच्छी तनख्वाह पाता हूँ वह उनकी कुर्बानियों के कारण है और हम लोगों को उनको सहायता करनी चाहिए। कभी-कभी हमको अपनी दोस्ती के कारण उनको सहायता करनी पड़नी भी है परन्तु मैं समझता हूँ कि यह सरकार का कर्तव्य है।

मेरे पास एक पत्र है बिहार की तरफ का। बिहार का आंकड़ा 393 बतलाया गया। मेरे पास एक पत्र आया हुआ है धनबाद का। वह नका लिखता है कि वह किसी न किसी प्रकार थोड़ा बहुत शिक्षा पाकर घर गिरे हुए बन गया है। इधर उसके परिवार की आर्थिक स्थिति काफी दयनीय हो गयी है और मुझे आग्रह था कि मैं लोकसभा में इस चीज को रखूँ कि उसको वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान की जाय। अब की से मेरे पास टेलीग्राम आया है कि उनके पिता गुजर गये हैं। उनके पिता का तबल्लुम 'स्वतंत्र' था और जिनका नाम राजेन्द्र भा था, विक्रमपुर भागलपुर जिले का है। मैं जब वहाँ चम्पारन में गया तो उनसे मैंने कई बार कहा था। वहाँ चटखौली विलेज में गुप्त करके एक पोलिटिकल

सफरर हैं उनका लड़का राधा मोहन है। मैंने उनको नौकरी दिलवाने की कोशिश की और उसको नौकरी मिल भी गई सूगर फॅक्टरी में लेकिन चूँकि वहाँ पर पार्टीबाजी चल रही थी इसलिए हुआ यह कि राज्य कांग्रेस के मुखिया ने कारखाने के मैनेजर को धौंस दी और परिणामस्वरूप उस बेचारे को वहाँ से निकाल दिया। अब उनका पिता जो हमारे साथ हमेशा 1930 से जेल में जाता रहा था उसका अब आपरेशन होना है। कल मेरे पास चिट्ठी आ गई कि अब उसका आपरेशन नहीं हो सकता जब तक कि उसे आगे मदद न दी जाय। उनकी हुकूमत ने प्रयात् बिहार का सरकार ने कुछ जमीन देने का वायदा किया था और दूसरी भी चीजें दी जानी थीं लेकिन नीचे के दफ्तर वाले गड़बड़ कर देते हैं। यहाँ एस० डी० ग्री० से उन्होंने सिफारिश की मगर कुछ नहीं हुआ। हम ने कर्पूरी साहब जो हमारे उपमन्त्री थे उनको कहा कि तुम लोगों ने यह क्यों नहीं किया लेकिन नैसा मैंने कहा यह चीजें नहीं होती हैं। इसलिए मेरा यह मन्त्रालय से मुभाव है कि वह लोग जोध्र जैसा कि मेरे दोस्त ने अभी कहा कि राज्यों के चीफ मिनिस्टर्स को एक मीटिंग बुलायें। साथ ही मेरा यह भी मुभाव है कि यह महज गवर्नमेंट के लिए ही नहीं होना चाहिए अपितु एक ग्रील पाट्रिज कमेटी इस बारे में बँटा दी जाय जो कि उन तमाम दरखास्तों की छानबीन प्रादि करे। उसमें सारी पार्टियों के प्रतिनिधि रखे जायें और वह कमेटी जो भी दरखास्तें अथवा शिकायतें आयें उनके बारे में छानबीन करे और आवश्यक कार्यवाही के बारे में निश्चय करे तो क्या मन्त्री महोदय इस बारे में सरकार का रुख बतलायेंगे ?

कितनी धन राशि केन्द्रीय सरकार की तरफ से आज खर्च होती है ? बिहार के चीफ मिनिस्टर को बुलाकर क्या यह कहा जायेगा कि

उनको उसमें मदद देनी चाहिए : और वह इस मदद देने के काम को क्यों नहीं करते ? कभी-कभी मुझको मिनिस्टर्स को लिखना पड़ता है कि वह अपने डिस्क्रिगनरी फंड से मदद करें लेकिन वहाँ कुछ नहीं होता है। अब इसके लिए कोई एक विशेष योजना सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को ही शुरू करनी चाहिए और स्टेट गवर्नमेंट के ऊपर निर्भर होना यह तो ऐसा ही हुआ जैसे एक टांग को किसी दूसरे की टांग में लगा देना। अब यह कि 50 परसेंट एड हम देंगे और 50 परसेंट स्टेट कपर्न्ड दे तो वह काम ठीक से हँने वाला नहीं है और स्वयं केन्द्रीय सरकार को अपने ऊपर इस का जिम्मा लेकर यह काम करना चाहिए मन्त्री महोदय का इस बारे में क्या दृष्टिकोण है।

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पन्त : अध्यक्ष महोदय, एक तो यह पूछा गया है कि कितनी धनराशि दी गई है तो मैं बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि जो सन् 1857 के सेनानी थे उनके जो वारिस हैं उनके लिए 12000 रुपया साल उस स्कीम के तहत रखा गया है। जो डिस्क्रिगनरी फंड डिस्क्रिगनरी ग्रांट होम मिनिस्टर की है और जोकि मुख्यतः इस काम में आती है अर्थात् स्वतन्त्रता संग्राम के सेनानियों की मदद करने के लिए होती है उस में 3 लाख रुपये है जिसमें से कि इस साल 2 लाख 25 हजार 698 रुपये 80 पैसे खर्च हो चुके हैं। इस के अतिरिक्त एक तीसरी स्कीम भी है जिसके अन्तर्गत जोकि अडेमांस में काले धनी में जाकर लोग रहे हैं या कुछ ग्रंथ जिन्होंने अपने जेल जीवन का वहाँ काटा है, कुछ मिला कर 5 साल से कम न काटा है उन के लिए 10 लाख रुपया रखा गया है

SHRI RANGA : That is a lumpsum.

SHRI K. C. PANT : That is a pension. That is given out of that.

SHRI RANGA : Total ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : Yes total.

इस के अलावा वह जो अपने एक भा साहब थे उन के बारे में बिहार सरकार क्या करती है तो उस के ऊपर मैं यहां पर टिप्पणी नहीं करना चाहता लेकिन मदद के लिए कोई ऐसा केस हमारे पास आयेगा तो हम अवश्य लिख देंगे। जिस केस में कोई बीमारी की बात हो जिसको हम अपने नियमों के तहत दे सकते हैं तो उन को हम अवश्य देगे और उस बारे में यहां विलम्ब नहीं होगा यह अवधान में आपको दे सकता हूँ।

What we can give we will give when they are eligible under the rules, we will do it.

एक माननीय सदस्य: क्या जिनकी परिस्थिति खराब है उन को सहायता देने के बारे में मंत्री महोदय बिहार सरकार को भी लिखेंगे ?

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पन्त: हम जो भी यहां से रूल्स के मुताबिक मदद दे सकते हैं वह देंगे और राज्य सरकारों को भी उस के लिए लिख सकते हैं।

श्री एस० एम० जोशी: उनको लिखने का कोई मतलब नहीं है बल्कि खुद केंद्रीय सरकार इस बारे में जिम्मेदारी लेनी है।

SHRI RANGA : They are asking for a change of policy. You are talking about the rules.

SHRI K. C. PANT : I am bound by the rules.

SHRI RANGA : He wanted an all-party Committee, a non-partisan Committee.

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पन्त : घाबिर में माननीय सदस्य ने जो सुझाव दिया है कि राज्य सरकारों के मुख्य मंत्रियों की एक मीटिंग बुलाकर इसके

ऊपर चर्चा हो तो उस पर विचार किया जायेगा।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : The Barasat incident is more than 20 days old and the CBI was sent to make enquiry. Nothing has come out of it. What has happened to the murders that took place in Barasat? The whole thing is being hushed up, sir. This is a serious matter. Will the government clarify the situation and make a statement?

12.50 hrs.

RE. MID. TERM POLL

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH (Buxar) : You might have seen from all the national papers that are published from here that they have hinted that Parliament is going to be dissolved, and the dates of the elections have also been published. I would like to know the authenticity of the report. That should be made clear.

SHRI RANGA (Srikakulam) : In England and other countries, the convention is that before the house rises, the Prime Minister makes the announcement about the dissolution of the House and the elections. I speak subject to correction when I say this...

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK (South Delhi) : This kind of rumour-mongering has been on for a long time. We are not afraid of facing going the elections. Let them come tomorrow, but this kind of thing must not go on. The House must be taken into confidence, and a declaration should be made before Parliament adjourns whether they are going to have mid-term elections, and if they are going to have it, then this kind of clear indication must come before Parliament.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY (Kendrapara) : You must have seen in the press that a particular date has also been announced,

SHRI SHEO NARAIN (Basti) : We are ready to face elections at any moment.