

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCEREPORTED LOOTING BY HOSTILE NAGAS IN
VILLAGES OF ASSAM

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): 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 looting resorted to by hostile Nagas in some villages of Assam, particularly in North Cachar Hills."

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the statement which I desire to make runs to about five pages. If you so desire, I may lay it on the Table of the House.

Mr. Speaker: Shall we take it up at 5 O'clock?

Shri Hathi: I shall give a brief summary also now.

Mr. Speaker: Then tomorrow he can put the questions, but tomorrow, already there are so many things.

Shri Hem Barua: He is ready to give a summary now, Sir.

Shri Hathi: I know that we are running short of time. So, I will give a short summary orally also; the details contained in the statement have been received from the Assam State Government from whom the details were called for. In the month of August, there were two such incidents—raids by Naga hostiles—one on the 22nd and the other on the 25th. The villages involved were Cherroligaon, Gorjan and Chowdangpathar. During these raids they looted private property and also looted some Government property and set fire to some houses. It is estimated that the total loss of property as a result of these

raids was of the order of about a lakh of rupees.

Then in September, the hostiles were responsible for several raids between 15th and 22nd September. The villages involved were Saitap, Chhota Arkap, Mulko, Borobike, Purana Paise, Chhota Bike, Jeenam and Hangram in North Cachar Hills. In the course of these raids they looted cash and other articles including fire-arms—about 19 is the number of guns which is reported to have been taken away by them. They also kidnapped some village people, but as a result of the action taken by the Security Force, the hostiles appear to have escaped, crossing the Jiri river. The persons kidnapped had been released before they escaped.

To cover the bordering areas of Sibsagar, United Mikir and North Cachar Hills and Cachar District, the border intelligence set-up was re-organised for collection of advance intelligence regarding movements and activities of Naga hostiles. The police and the army have been carrying on intensive patrols to restore the morale and confidence of the people. The State Government is fully alive to the situation and necessary precautionary measures have been taken to prevent recurrence of these incidents. The situation now in this area is normal.

The Minister also laid a detailed statement on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3292/64].

Shri Hem Barua: May I know if the Government are aware of the fact that Mr. Phizo is at present in Dacca, East Pakistan, from where he is guiding these operations and the depredation on the Assam villages are caused by Naga hostiles returning from East Pakistan with arms and ammunition from Pakistan and instructions from Mr. Phizo?

Shri Hathi: If the hon. Member reads the statement, he will find that we have mentioned that—it appears

that these Nagas were returning from Pakistan. I have given a full report, and that information is also there.

Shri Hem Barua: He has not replied to the first part of my question.

Mr. Speaker: He agrees with you and he says that he has given the full statement!

Shri Hem Barua: I congratulate him for giving the facts, but at the same time, he has not told us one thing: whether the Government are aware of the fact that Mr. Phizo is at present in Dacca, East Pakistan.

Shri Hathi: What I have said is, we have got the detailed report from the Assam Government on these very incidents. We have mentioned in the statement that these Nagas are believed to be returning from Pakistan.

Mr. Speaker: About Phizo?

Shri Hathi: There is no information.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): May I know whether it is a fact that these attempts by some of the Naga hostiles who are still under the influence of Mr. Phizo or his other companions are part of the conspiracy to sabotage the peace talks between the Naga hostile leaders and the Government and, if so, what steps have been taken in this regard?

Shri Hathi: This was much earlier. (Interruption)

Shri Hem Barua: On a point of order. According to his statement, these incidents occurred between 15th and 22nd September when the suspension of operations was there.

Shri Hathi: I said some of these were in August.

Shri Hem Barua: Two in August; he is contradicting his own statement. Two incidents took place in August and—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Should he allow him to contradict himself and afterward, say that!

Shri Hathi: I have said that two incidents were in the month of August and the others were in September.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, my question is this. This incident took place in the month of September. This incident has taken place just at the time when the peace talks were going on. When there was a specific objection by the Naga hostile leaders to the inclusion of Shilu Ao, may I know whether it was a calculated move on the part of the Naga hostiles under the influence of Mr. Phizo who, it is said, is in East Pakistan, to sabotage the peace talks?

Shri Hathi: I have no information on that.

Shri Hem Barua: How could it synchronise with the peace talks...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He is going into arguments. He can only ask for information and not argue.

Shri Daji (Indore): The hon. Minister has given a negative reply to the question of my hon. friend, Shri Banerjee. I would like to know the dates of the two raids in September and whether during that time the negotiations were continuing or not?

Shri Hathi: The negative reply was that I have no information.

Shri Daji: About what?

Mr. Speaker: Can he give the dates in September?

Shri Hathi: In September it was from 15th to 22nd.

Shri Daji: Sir, the operative part of my question has not been answered.

Mr. Speaker: He has got the dates

Shri Daji: Whether they were near about the peace talks has not been said.

Mr. Speaker: He can just conclude from that.

Shri Hem Barua: Sir, I seek your guidance.

Mr. Speaker. My guidance is that he must resume his seat (*Interruption*).

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Shri Singhvi.

Shri Hem Barua: I think the Prime Minister wants to say something.

Mr. Speaker: I have called Shri Singhvi.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi (Jodhpur): May I know whether there was any intelligence apparatus in this part of the country giving advance information of these depredations and whether it is a fact that these depredations could be carried out with impunity because of the insufficiency of our security forces and their lack of mobility at that given time?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Sir, we have taken the necessary precautions and if there is trouble created by some section of the Nagas we will have to effectively deal with it. It is true that there have been these incidents round about the peace talks. But we have also to realise that there might be a certain section amongst the Nagas who are keen to see that these talks do not succeed, they fall through. So, we have not to play into their hands. If there is a reasonable approach from the side of the Nagas we will try to be as liberal as possible, but if they make impossible demands, of course, Government's attitude is absolutely clear and we will deal with it as we think it necessary.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Sir, my question has not been answered. In fairness, I must be permitted to elicit the information.

Mr. Speaker: Everyone says his question has not been answered.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: It is always for you, Sir, to adjudicate, but it is

quite clear that my question related to the availability of advance information with the Government. Secondly, I wanted to know whether it was due to the fact that there was insufficient security forces and they had not sufficient mobility to take care of these depredations that these incidents happened. These were questions of a general nature.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Dr. Singhvi completely forgets as to what has been happening during the last eight or ten years. This is not a rare incident; a number of such incidents have been taking place and in spite of our security forces being there. We know many things about these incidents beforehand, but it is not always that we know each and every movement of underground Nagas. They had been indulging in some kind of guerilla tactics (*Interruption*). In guerilla tactics often the other party does not know as to what is going to happen. So in every case to expect that we will get advance notice or information it is not possible.

Shri Hem Barua: Sir, I rise to a point of order. This arises from what the Prime Minister has just now said. Here is an indirect attempt to condone the activities of the Naga hostiles when he says that the Government is not in a position to check the movement of the Naga hostiles and that the Naga hostiles have been conducting their guerilla movement for years—he said, for the last ten years. That shows how futile the so-called efforts made by the Government have been.

Mr. Speaker: What is the decision that I should give?

Shri Hem Barua: The decision is this. Here the Prime Minister.

Mr. Speaker: That decision he is giving himself.

Shri Hem Barua: I want your decision to this. I want to know whether it is not a fact that the Prime Minister in the course of his statement has simply exposed the

weakness of our Government in relation to the Naga hostiles?

Mr. Speaker: That also is a question that he is putting to me. He is not asking me to give any decision.

Shri Hem Barua: I want to know whether you concur with it (Interruptions).

श्री हुकम चन्द कश्यप (देवास) :
 यह नागा विद्रोही 400, 400 और 500, 500 के जत्थों में पाकिस्तान ट्रेनिंग लेने के लिए जाते हैं और वहां से ट्रेनिंग लेकर लौटने के बाद उनके द्वारा यहां भारत में यह सारे उपद्रव किये जाते हैं तो क्या सीमा पर हमारे सैनिक ठोक प्रकार से तैनात किये जायेंगे ताकि इस तरह के लोग वहां पाकिस्तान में शिक्षा लेने के लिए न जा सकें और लौटने पर यह उपद्रव न कर सकें ?

श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री : मैं तो समझता था कि यह हमारे माननीय सदस्य अग्रगामी हैं और इसलिए यह आगे जाने वाले और आगे को बढ़ने वाले लोगों में से एक हैं लेकिन यह जो बातें ने कइ रहे हैं यह तो पीछे की हैं और इन पर यहां काफ़ी कुछ कहा जा चुका है। मैं समझता हूँ कि अब इन पर और अधिक कहने की जरूरत नहीं है।

श्री हुकम चन्द कश्यप : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा ऐसा कहना है कि यह नागा विद्रोही लोग उधर पाकिस्तान में ट्रेनिंग लेने चले जाते हैं और वहां से शिक्षण प्राप्त करके लौटने पर भारत में उपद्रव करते हैं तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उन को रोकने के लिए यह सरकार क्या कर रही है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह तो उन्होंने कह दिया।

Shri Hem Barua: The suspension of operations has opened the flood-gates there. I am getting letters and telegrams from the affected people.

श्री बागड़ी (हिमाार) : क्या यह वाक्या नहीं है कि जब नागा बागियों ने हमला

किया था उस समय बातचीत एक तरह से टूट सी गई थी और अभी यह जो आखिरी हमला हुआ है उसमें भी देखा गया कि जैसे ही एकदम बातचीत चल पड़ी तो वह हमला भी बंद हो गया ? इस मुताबकत के पीछे अंदर क्या रहस्य है क्या इसे प्रधान मंत्री जी बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे ?

श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री : कभी कभी ऐसा भी संभव हो सकता है कि बागड़ी जी कोई बात झगड़े की करें, लेकिन हमारे और उन के बीच में बातचीत हो तो हमारे उन के बीच में वह झगड़ा उस उग्र रूप में मौजूद न रहे और उनके और हमारे बीच में कोई बात बन जाय। इसलिए उन्हें इसके लिए कोई बहुत ताज्जुब नहीं करना चाहिए ;

श्री बागड़ी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं तो यही पूछा था कि हमला उस वक्त हुआ जब उन की बातचीत टूटी और फिर जब बातचीत दुबारा बनी तो उस वक्त फिर उन का हमला बंद हो गया, आखिर इन दोनों बातों में मुताबकत का रहस्य क्या है क्या प्रधान मंत्री महोदय इसे बतलाने की कोशिश करेंगे ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यही तो उन्होंने कहा कि कई ऐसे रहस्य आपस में हो सकते हैं जिनका कि इल्म तीसरे को नहीं हो सकता है। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि बागड़ी जी और प्राइम मिनिस्टर के दरमियान कोई चीज हो तो उसका दूसरों को इल्म नहीं हो सकता है।

श्री बागड़ी : अब उनको और मुझे तो इल्म हो सकता है।

Shri Hem Barua: This is very much different from that. There must be difference between Shri Bagri and the Prime Minister, between the Prime Minister and myself and so on. Here the Naga hostiles are actively co-operating with our enemies, Pakistan and China. This is quite a different matter. We have the democratic right, but the Naga hostiles do not have the democratic right, the consti-

[Shri Hem Barua]

tutional right to co-operate with them and received arms and ammunitions from enemy countries like Pakistan and China. (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: Is there something more or can I proceed (*Interruption*). Order, order. There ought to be an end to this.

Shri Hem Barua: There is an end, Sir.

Shrimati Renuka Barkataki (Barteta): We are happy to know from the Prime Minister that the Government has taken necessary precautions. But I would like to know whether the Government is aware of the fact that after the withdrawal of our security forces and army from Assam-Nagaland border and Assam-Manipur border without making adequate police arrangements for the security of property and lives in the villages in those border areas, there has been some sort of a widespread feeling of panic and insecurity in the minds of the villagers and increasing recalcitrance on the part of the Naga hostiles.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: So far as the security forces are concerned, they are there in Nagaland and on the borders. The responsibility of guarding our frontiers and borders is naturally that of the security forces. If there is any special difficulty, we are prepared to look into them. But I have no doubt that the security of that area and the people living there will be fully watched and we will see that no one is harassed and no incident takes place.

12.50 hrs.

RE. DEATH OF SCHOOL CHILDREN IN ANDHRA PRADESH BY TAKING CARE MID-DAY MEALS

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah (Adoni): Sir, I would like to make a submission. Some days ago you were pleased to instruct the Education Minister to gather facts from the State Govern-

ment regarding the tragic death of so many school children in Andhra State. It is seen from the press reports that the Committee appointed to go into the matter has already submitted a report to the State Government. I would like to know whether we will get any information on the subject.

Mr. Speaker: The Education Minister is not present here in the House at the moment. So, it could not be taken up now.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—Contd.

SUPREME COURT JUDGMENT *re*. U.P. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY V. JUDGES OF THE ALLAHABAD HIGH COURT

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Law to the opinion given by the Supreme Court in the case of U.P. Legislative Assembly *vs.* Judges of Allahabad High Court upholding the action of the judiciary.

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): I do not really know what answer the hon. Member seeks to elicit from me excepting that I can only give in a summary form what the conclusions of the Supreme Court have been... (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: That must have been read by every one. What is it that Shri Banerjee wants to know?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know the reaction of the Government, because...

Mr. Speaker: It is too soon now.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Kindly hear me. I would not have asked for this reply immediately but since on the 3rd the session is coming to an end, he should make a statement at least on the 3rd, because our privileges have been dashed to the ground...

Shri Frank Anthony (Nominated—Anglo-Indians): No, no.