

SHRI Z.R. ANSARI : After the implementation of those schemes, the local authorities will be made responsible to maintain those sewerage schemes. Also they will be regularly monitored by the Central Ganga Authority and the local authorities which will be made responsible for the maintenance of those schemes regularly.

Infiltration of Foreign Nationals into Andaman and Nicobar Islands

*765. **SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any information about foreign nationals entering into the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government are ensuring checks to stop any possible entry of terrorists in the Bay Islands ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). Entry into Andaman and Nicobar Islands of Foreign nationals, is governed by the Foreigners (Restricted Areas) Order 1963. No foreign national can enter into the Islands without special permission. Special permission can be granted by Ministry of Home Affairs or officials specially authorised to issue permits to foreigners for entering into, or remaining at the specified places in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(c) No such activity has come to the notice of the Government. However, strict vigilance is being maintained.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : First of all, before asking the supplementary I seek your protection...

MR. SPEAKER : Has your entry been banned ?

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : The question asked is very specific. But the Minister has neither accepted nor rejected the points raised by me. The Minister has

simply given some description as to how a foreigner can enter the Islands. But my question is 'whether Government have any information about foreign nationals entering into the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands'. That he has evaded carefully.

So, the point is that I seek your protection...*(Interruption)*

MR. SPEAKER : Do you have my protection ?

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Then ask the question.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Answer to all the points in the question should be given otherwise it becomes irrelevant to ask the question. Now I am coming to my first supplementary. In the Andaman and Nicobar Islands—you know its geographical location and its very strategic position—every year 15-16 boats are being captured by the Coast Guards or by the Nicobar Island administration. The foreigners are coming by those boats for poaching in the Island. Moreover, I think one information the Minister might be having...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You ask the question now. You are taking too long.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : I am coming to the point, Sir...

AN HON. MEMBER : That is a backward area also.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : It is a backward area also. Unfortunately, the Speaker has not visited the Island. Once the Speaker visits the Island, I think we will get a little more assistance...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : We have come to an agreement. Prime Minister and myself both will visit.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Thank you very much, Sir. The point is that we have got so many islands unoccupied,

Even in one of the islands named Tilang Chong, 75 foreign nationals were found and births has taken place in that island but they were taken back. So, my question is whether there is any specific arrangement made by the Ministry of Home Affairs to check all those people who are entering the Island and also whether there is any check on those who are coming by ship or by air, to find out whether the foreigners are coming or not. This is my first question.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, it is not correct that I have not answered the question of the hon. Member. He did not ask how many entered illegally. If he had asked, I would have given the correct answer. He says whether the Government has any information about the foreign nationals and I have said that this is the procedure by which they come and enter the Union Territory... (*Interruption*). Coming to the hon. Member's question, he has told us about the types of transgressions that take place. He has mentioned about the trawlers. It is true that many trawlers of the neighbouring countries illegally enter into our waters but due to the vigilance exercised by the Administration and by the Defence Forces, a large number of them are captured, they are confiscated and the persons occupying them are convicted. At present also, a large number of cases are going on and the Government's vigilance in that respect has paid us dividends. As regards the large number of uninhabited islands, it is true that a large number of islands are uninhabited but we are in touch with the Defence authorities. We have Army battalions there, there is a unit of the Coast Guard also and we are in touch with the Defence authorities to see that all possible vigilance to protect the security of the Islands is maintained.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Sir, the Island has got different types of problems and it has a limited capacity for the population. But what happens is that even the ethnic people, like the people from Bangladesh or Sri Lanka, are also coming there and there is no such vigilance on them. That is why the population of the Island is increasing at a very high rate. Consequently, a large number of people are entering the forests, destroying the forests and disturbing the ecology of the Island.

MR. SPEAKER : Now put the question.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : In view of that, I am specifically asking the hon. Minister whether he is going to introduce any kind of check or any kind of permit system or any kind of identity card system so that it is known that no foreigner of the ethnic nature is entering the Island.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, the foreigners, as I said, have to take permission to enter the Island because it is a restricted area. There is a sizeable population of the Tamil speaking people in the Island and we came across two cases of Tamil speaking Sri Lankan nationals coming there. Proper action was taken and they were sent back. We have not come across any such violation since then and I can assure the hon. Member that full vigilance is maintained. The citizens of our country can, of course, go there, there is no bar on it, but the foreigners are rigidly screened before they are allowed to land there. Even in the matter of period of stay and places they can visit, there are restrictions. And I can assure the House, through you, Mr. Speaker, that we are very much conscious of the strategic nature of these islands and we will do everything possible to see that they are properly protected.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Is it a fact that a large number of Pakistani nationals are staying in some of the Southern States? If so, what is the number of those people and the names of the States in which they are staying?

MR. SPEAKER : What are you asking?

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Pakistani nationals in southern States.

MR. SPEAKER : That does not arise. This is a question relating to Andaman and Nicobar Islands. If you have a question pertaining to that, you put it. You cannot just have fixture all around free for all. You put the question. Then you can get the answer. Unnecessarily why do you go to other subjects?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : How is it different from the southern part of Andaman and Nicobar islands....

MR. SPEAKER : That amended question can stand.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU : The Government instead of preventing the entry of foreigners, actually, what they are doing is this. They are demolishing the huts and houses of the Tamil PWD workers there. Will the Government stop doing it? I want to know it.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : There is no question of demolishing any house, least of all, that of Tamil speaking people.

MR. SPEAKER : There is no question at all.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as has been said by the hon. Member who spoke prior to me, Andaman and Nicobar Islands is a sensitive place. It is an Island which is not inhabited by people at many places. Our Navy and Army are stationed at such strategic places. According to the information received, the foreign and anarchic elements are infiltrating into our Bay of Bengal. Such places which are not inhabited by people are very important from security point of view. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he has received information to the effect that such elements are infiltrating there?

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has just now replied to it?

SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI : When was it replied to?

MR. SPEAKER : You have not listened to that.

[English]

Alienation of Reserved Forest Area for Yeleru Reservoir Project (A.P.)

*776 SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM .

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government for alienation of Reserve Forest area for its Yeleru Reservoir Project;

(b) whether Union Government have granted alienation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Final decision on the proposal could not so far be taken on account of non-submission of essential information by the State Government.

SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM : The information furnished to us by the State Government is that the entire information has been furnished to the Central Government. In spite of this, what he says is not clear to us. I would like to know what sort of information was required from the State Government and when?

SHRI Z.R. ANSARI : This is a case which was presented to the Central Government in 1984 and incomplete information was provided by the State Government. Many reminders were sent to the State Government but they did not respond to the correspondence sent by this Department and they did not send the information. So ultimately the case had to be closed down. Again it was reopened. And it was reopened with similar incomplete information. There are certain basic requirements for the clearance. In certain projects, vast area of forest is submerged; then the project should give the scheme about the compensatory, afforestation, cost benefit analysis, rehabilitation plan for oustees especially when large number of oustees are scheduled castes and scheduled tribes people and the feasibility of realigning the left bank canal so as to reduce the use of forest area.

These are the details which we are lacking and till today we are not in receipt of