

Statement

For the last few years the tribal leaders of Midnapore, Bankura and Purulia districts of West Bengal and the adjoining districts of Bihar and Orissa have been agitating for a separate Jharkhand State. The organisations which have been spearheading the movement are the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha and Jharkhand Yuba Morcha. Of late, following the disturbances in Assam and Tripura, the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha have considerably intensified their organisational activities. They are holding regular meetings in different parts of Jhargram Sub-division of Midnapore district. The Party is utilising local issues relating to distribution of land, recording of sharecroppers, elimination of Adivasi traders from the Jubilee Market of Jhargram town, employment facilities in Jhargram Paper Mills, etc. A disturbing feature is that the movement has recently developed an anti-Bengali character. However, the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha has publicly denied any link with such activities. The Mahatras of Midnapore district, who are not tribals, have made common cause with the Santhals in their demand for Jharkhand State.

It is reported that some British, French, West German and Dutch Missionaries and social welfare organisations have been aiding this movement and organising the tribals to agitate on pro-tribal issues. The district Magistrate, Midnapore, in a recent report has intimated that increasing number of foreigners and Missionaries are visiting Jhargram. He has also reported that a number of voluntary organisations, financed by foreign countries and institutions, are working in Jhargram Sub-division without keeping the district authorities informed of their activities. Some of the organisations have been doing valuable work in the tribal areas but taking advantage of their philanthropic activities, some Christian Missionaries are working for conversion of the tribals.

Inclusion of Peruvannan Community of Kerala in List of Scheduled Castes

*567. SHRI A. K. BALAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Peruvannan Community belongs to Scheduled Castes, whereas Peruvannan Community belongs to other eligible community in Kerala State;

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to include the Peruvannan Community in the list of Scheduled Castes; and

(c) whether Government have received any memorandum from Kerala in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The Government are aware that the Peruvannan Community are in the list of Scheduled Castes in Kerala and the Peruvannan Community is not included in the list.

(b) and (c). Representations have been received from the State of Kerala for inclusion of Peruvannan Community in the list of Scheduled Castes in respect of Kerala State. This proposal will be considered by the Government along with such other pending proposals.

Commissioning of Kalpakkam Fast Breeder Atomic Plant

*568. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that commissioning of Kalpakkam Fast Breeder Atomic Plant is getting delayed;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for this; and

(c) whether in this project the Indian Scientists have achieved a great measure of self reliance in designing and manufacturing components