

## LOK SABHA

*Wednesday, September 16, 1981/Bhadra 25,  
1903 (SAKA)*

*The Lok Sabha met at  
Eleven of the Clock*

[(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Welcome, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you.

SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR (Ratnagiri): We have already started the session for today. We had some business from 12 to 4.

MR. SPEAKER: I could very well congratulate you all on this. What a dedication to duty! What a perfect example of dedication to duty!

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Durgapur): In one day we are meeting twice.

MR. SPEAKER: Remarkable !

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri. Absent. Shri Faleiro.

### Grant to Gandhi Peace Foundation and Avard by Ford Foundation

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\*457. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:  
SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. two lakh fifty thousand were given jointly to Gandhi Peace Foundation and AVARD by Ford Foundation in 1979 under grant No. 780-0277;

(b) what was the purpose for which this grant was given; and

(c) whether Government have received any information regarding Asia Foundation and Ford Foundation for their grants for political motives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):  
(a) : The Ford Foundation grant No. 780-0277 amounting to \$ two lakh fifty thousand (and not Rs. two lakh fifty thousand) was given jointly to Gandhi Peace Foundation and AVARD on 1st December, 1978 and not in 1979.

(b) The grant was given to strengthen the organisational framework and technical capabilities of voluntary agencies in collaboration with Gandhi Peace Foundation and to sponsor research and training activities in rural development.

(c) No, Sir.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Here we have, as the Minister has rightly corrected, it was not two lakh fifty thousand rupees, but it was two lakh fifty thousand dollars, that was received by AVARD. Even this amount is only the tip of an ice berg. It has been disclosed that this AVARD gets crores of rupees every year through donations.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Deliberately, the mistake was committed.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Well, I am correcting now.

Is the Government aware that this amount of two lakh fifty thousand dollars has been misused? Is the Government aware of the notes of the 50th meeting of the Executive Committee of AVARD, where it is mentioned that a jeep was purchased for \$ 39,000 in 1979? \$ 39,000 has been debited in 1979 for purchasing a jeep. As far as personnel is concerned, the number of personnel whether senior or junior or junior is not given but only 12 or 10 man-Years is given.

MR. SPEAKER: Come out with the question.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: I would like to ask, whether the Government is aware that this money is misused by irregularities of political and para-political organisations, as can be seen— not RSS exactly— from page 49 of these notes where it is mentioned.

AVARD is broadly committed to supporting People's AVARD action to seek social and economic rights. While political rights are none-the-less important, and in some cases even more critical, AVARD will generally confine itself to social and economic rights. There are other agencies and therefore I call the attention of the hon. Minister to them like the P. U. C. L. and C.I.D. which are concerned with social and political rights. My question to the hon. Minister is whether the Minister is aware that this particular organisation, AVARD, the Association for Voluntary Research and Development, is misusing the funds given to it for social objectives and is channelising funds for para-political purposes, the Citizens for Democracy and PUCL..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: That is all right. Complete it.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Whether the Government are looking into the funds received by this organisation from foreign organisations?

MR. SPEAKER: That is all right.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: I am just clarifying.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Sir, the hon. Member has said rightly that some funds have been mis-utilised, because in this very House a Resolution was brought by hon. Members and it was discussed at length where all the Members have pointed out certain irregularities and misuse of funds received by this organisation. Therefore, we have adopted that resolution and a Commission of Enquiry is to be appointed where all these aspects which the hon. Member has described here will be taken as terms of reference and then the Commission will submit its report.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know when this Commission is going to be appointed, and secondly, whether the Government is aware that foreign contributions are being increasingly received in this country and whether the Government has any machinery to monitor the inflow of money, and whether the Government will therefore amend suitably the Foreign Contributions Regulation Act, to provide for a machinery to monitor the use of this foreign money and its inflow into the country?

गृह मंत्री (श्री जल सिंह) : स्पीकर साहब, गांधी फाउंडेशन एक नहीं है, उसकी अनेक शाखायें हैं। हमारे पास मुक्तलिफ लोगों से बड़ी भारी शिकायतें आई हैं। अभी हमारे मिनिस्टर ऑफ

स्टेट ने बताया कि इस हाउस ने रिजोल्यूशन यूनेनिमसली पास किया है। हम किसी निष्पक्ष कमीशन को मुकरर करेंगे और जो बातें हैं और जो कहीं कहीं गई हैं या किसी के पास और हों, वे हम टर्म्स-ऑफ-रिफ्रेंस में देंगे। इस बात के लिए बहुत शक पाया जाता है कि हिन्दुस्तान के लोग बहुत इस बात पर परेशान हैं कि देश के राष्ट्रपिता महात्मा गांधी के नाम पर ऐसी बातें हो रही हैं। लेकिन हम यह भी साफ कर देना चाहते हैं कि किसी दूसरे मुल्क के खिलाफ हमको यह शिकायत नहीं है। लोगों के बैलफेयर के लिए सहायता दी जाती है, लेकिन वह सहायता किस तरह से यूज की गई, उसको प्रॉपर तरीके से लोगों की भलाई के लिए इस्तेमाल किया गया या किसी और तरीके से उसको बाहर निकाला गया—इस बात की जानकारी सरकार नहीं, बल्कि कमीशन करेगा।

SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN: Will the Minister confirm whether the Asia Foundation was banned by the Government of India, after it came to know that it was CIA Sponsored and whether it is also a fact that Shri Morarji Desai returned some money to this organisation when he came to know that this organisation was belonging to the CIA? Is it also a fact that the Ford Foundation has also been providing money to AVARD to strengthen the activities of voluntary bodies affiliated to this, which are engaged in political activities detrimental to the national interest?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Before I reply to this question, I want to reply to the earlier question regarding the amendment of the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act. It is under consideration.

So far as the question of the hon. Member is concerned, the Asian Foundation was banned in 1968. I do not know whether Shri Morarji Desai has returned some money to it.

SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN : That was stated by him in this House.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : If he has stated it, it is good. I do not know about it.

**SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN :** What about the activities of voluntary organisations affiliated to this body ?

**SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA :** They will come with in the purview of the Commission which is to be appointed. All these aspects can be included in the terms of reference.

**SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN :** These affiliated bodies are engaged in political activities which are anti-national. Are the Government aware of it ?

**SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA :** Yes, Sir. They are engaged in political activities.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** The hon. Home Minister in his reply a little while ago seemed to suggest that there was at least a *prima facie* case against this organisation..

**PROF. N. G. RANGA :** How ?

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** You see what he has said : you do not want me to repeat it, I suppose. Anyway, arising out of the answer given by the Minister of State just now, what were the grounds in which the Government banned the Asian Foundation in 1968 and when, and under what circumstances this ban was removed later on ?

**SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWAN :** Some irregularities and misuse of funds and activities which were detrimental to the cause of the country were found. Therefore, it was banned in 1968. The ban is not lifted.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** It was stated just now that a Commission of Inquiry is going to be appointed.

**SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA :** That is another aspect. There are two parts of the question. You are referring to the Asian Foundation about which I have explained the position. So far as the other organisations, like Gandhi Peace Foundation and allied organisations are concerned, a Resolution was moved in this House, discussed at length when many allegations were made, and it was adopted by the House. In view of that Resolution, a Commission under the Commissions of Inquiry has to be appointed, and that Commission will go into all the aspects.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** Is it a fact that the Asia Foundation has also given previously grants to organisations like Nehru Museum and Library, of which our present Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, is the President and also

the Indian Law Institute, of which late Mr. Krishna Menon was the President ? Though setting up an inquiry commission to inquire into the finances of any organisation and particularly of a Gandhian organisation is a welcome phenomenon, will the assurance be given by the hon. Minister to the House that only because the name of late Jayaprakash Narayan is associated with certain institutions, institution will be harassed ?

**SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA :** It is wrong to say that we are taking action because the name of late Jayaprakash Narayan is associated with these organisations. I flatly deny the allegation made by the hon. Member. It is only because of the fact that there were certain allegations and certain irregularities were found by the Government that this Resolution was accepted.

**SHRI K. LAKKAPPA :** The inflow of foreign money through these organisations, has penetrated deep in this country. And the activities of these organisations are detrimental to the interest and security of the country. The hon. Minister has clearly stated that the activities of certain organisations are harmful to the country and that many people are involved in those organisations. Who are the people who are associated with such organisations ?

Since 1978 when the Janata Party came to power there was successful inflow of foreign money through these organisation. This can be borne out by the records in the Home Ministry. Will the hon. Minister disclose the names of such persons who are involved, the activities of these organisations and the extent of money spent for such activities ? What action does the Government propose to take to put an end to such belligerent activities ?

**SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWAN :** The hon. Member has put several questions in one question. I would like to reply to each part of his question. So far the persons involved in the Gandhi Peace Foundation are concerned, they are : Shri R.R. Divakar—Chairman, Shri K.S. Radhakrishna—Secretary, Shri D. Ram Chandran Joint Secretary, Shri Ram Lal Parilkh former Member of Rajya Sabha, -Treasure. The persons involved in the Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development are—Shri Radhakrishna—President, Shri Panra Lal Dasgupta—Vice—President. Dr. Balhadra Prasad—Treasurer and Shri A.C. Sen, Genral Secretary.

So far as political activities undertaken by these organisations with the help of other voluntary organisations are concerned, a meeting was called in which

Prof Raj Krishna, a former member of the Planing Commission, was present. In this meeting formation of a coordinating body comprising representatives of several important voluntary organisations to guide and monitor the various movements in different parts of the country, was considered. At the instance of Shri Radhakrishna and Shri B.G. Verghese, the People's Union for Civil Liberty and Democratic Rights has been revived under the name of 'People's Union of Civil Liberties' which is intended to be a forum for bringing together various opposition parties on a common platform. Shri V.M. Tarakunde is its Chairman and Shri Arun Shourie of the Indian Express is its Secretary.

I would like to inform the hon. Member that the All India Conference of Heads of Gandhian organisations held at Nadiad on October 22-23, 1980....

MR. SPEAKER : You give him the information.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: In it they decided to undertake political activities. Now this is nothing but misuse of the money for the purpose other than for what it was received.

AN HON. MEMBER : Misuse for political purposes.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : There is no point of order. Now Mr. Shejwalkar.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Sir, I am seeking a clarification. The hon. Minister mentioned the name of Arun Shourie. He is not here to defend himself.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR : Sir, two are fact evident. Foreign money is being sent here to different foundations, organisations or bodies and some Indian bodies as their counterparts are receiving and those foreign monies here. Sir, I want to ask whether in the proposed Commission an inquiry will be made regarding all the foreign money which is being brought here and sent to all the private firms or private companies or private associations under or institutions particularly including those who are interested the guise of religious propaganda in propagating anti-national activities. Will you kindly tell us whether you will include all that in the commission ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : This is a suggestion made by the hon. Member. I have taken note of it.

SHRI N.K. SHEJWALKAR : It is not an answer. I am not giving a suggestion. I want to know specifically 'yes' or 'no' Will the inquiry be held regarding all the foreign money which is being brought here for private institutions ? I am specifically putting that question. There is no question of suggestion.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Sir, I said that the purview of the resolution was pertaining to certain organisations only. Now, If the hon. Member wants to include many other organisations, it is a suggestion from the Member and I said that I have taken note of it.

#### Automobile Tyres Project, Durgapur

\*458. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have approved to set up a project in Durgapur (West Bengal) to manufacture automobile tyres in the joint sector with a private company ; and

(b) if so, the details of the projects and progress so far ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

A Letter for Intent for the manufacture of 4 lakh Nos. each of automobile tyres and tubes in Haldia (West Bengal) was issued in favour of the West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation (WBIDC) in September, 1972. To implement the project, the WBIDC promoted a company in January, 1974 in the name if and style of M/s. Webstar Ltd. The technical foreign collaboration proposals with M/s. Dunlop Ltd. U.K. were approved by Government in February 1974, and the capital goods clearance was given in June, 1975. The Letter of Intent was converted into industrial licence in July, 1975 and the location of the project was indicated at Durgapur. The validity of the industrial licence was last extended up to 22-7-1980.

2. In their application, the WBIDC had indicated that the project would be implemented in the joint sector. They had also indentified M/s. Williamson Major & Co. to hold 25% equity shares in M/s. Webstar Ltd. Subsequently, however, the private company had disassociated itself from the project.