

lodged a written report. It appears that they accepted bribes from the assailants; the doctor also accepted the bribes and he is involved in this gruesome incident. Therefore, I want to know from him why the doctor was not arrested and why proper steps were not taken in this regard?

The hon. Prime Minister, in the House, stated that a Special Cell was being set up under the leadership of the Chief Minister of the State. But, in spite of that, in Bihar, this type of gruesome incident occurred. So, I want to know whether—in spite of the Special Cell being set up under the leadership of the Chief Minister such atrocities are committed on the harijans—the Government is prepared to institute an inquiry by a Parliamentary Committee into the horrible incidents.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Well, Sir, the matter is already before the Questions Committee of the Vidhan Sabha. When the matter came up in the Bihar Legislative Assembly, the Members were not satisfied with the answers given; or they wanted more facts. And therefore, the Speaker referred it to the Questions Committee of the Legislature. All the points regarding the doctor's certificate, the delay in registration of the case and other allegations or remarks made by the hon. Members and which were also mentioned in the debate in the State Assembly are all referred to the Questions Committee. We want to wait and see what they have got to say in the matter.

श्री राजेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मझे दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि यह घटना मेरे ही निर्वाचन क्षेत्र से सम्बन्धित है। जहाँ तक मेरे निर्वाचन क्षेत्र का सम्बन्ध है, हमारे यहाँ यह पहली घटना है, हालाँकि देश के अन्य भागों से प्रायः इस तरह की घटनाओं की रिपोर्ट आती रहती हैं। मैं केन्द्रीय सरकार से यह आशवासन चाहता हूँ—राज्य सरकारें जो कर रही हैं, वह तो ठीक है, लेकिन क्या केन्द्र सरकार इस तरह की कोई व्यवस्था करेगी कि आइन्दा इस तरह की घटनायें दोहराई न जायँ ?

श्री राम निवार: निर्वा : केन्द्रीय सरकार इस सम्बन्ध में सचेत है और राज्य सरकारों से भी कहा गया है।

MR. SPEAKER: We have taken about 20 minutes already on this question. A discussion has already been fixed regarding this.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Apart from the fact that the Prime Minister has shown her interest in condemning these incidents and has appointed a cell, may I know whether any special meeting of the Chief Ministers will be convened to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future because this is not an isolated case of Harijans being tortured and they are being tortured in most of the States? May I know of the Chief Ministers to discuss this problem exhaustively with the help of the Opposition leaders?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The steering committee which has been recently formed under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister is meeting on 24th August, and this will be one of the points that will be discussed by the steering committee, so that when the national integration council machinery is activated, how these questions of atrocities and related matters could be tackled, will also be taken care of.

Report of Enquiry Commission into the Affairs of National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad

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*383. **SHRI VEKARIA:**
SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Report of the Enquiry Commission which was appointed by the Union Government to enquire into the affairs of the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, has been since examined, and

(b) if so, the main recommendations made and action taken by Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5422/73].

SHRI VEKARIA: It seems from the statement laid on the Table that the allegations made against the chairman, or at least some of them, have been proved beyond doubt. So, may I know what steps Government would like to take over the institution so as to bring it under the complete control of Government, and to remove the present chairman?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: It appears from the observations of the committee that not any substantial allegation against the chairman has been established. Besides, it has also been pointed out by Mr. Wanchoo who conducted the inquiry that the chairman rendered valuable services, rather over-enthusiastic services, to the institute. The chairman has already tendered his resignation, and it is under the consideration of Government.

SHRI VEKARIA: Finding No. 2 is that differing views were not given serious consideration. Secondly, there is another finding that certain appointments, though justified on grounds of qualifications, were ill-advised. These two allegations were proved against the chairman. And yet it is surprising that Government's reply is that no allegations have been proved. May I know whether Government think that those findings are true or not? May I also know how much money has been paid to the institution so far and how many students were trained in the institute?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: I have already pointed out that Government have already accepted the recommendations of the committee on broad principles. In regard to the appointments, it has been pointed out that the persons were qualified and they were according to the standards required, but in spite of that, it has been pointed out by the inquiry committee that no impression

should be created that the institute has specially close connections with a particular firm or industry. In view of that, the chairman has already tendered his resignation. Regarding enrolment of students I can say that up to 1971, 100 students have come out of the institute.

Regarding the money already spent in the institute, I can give the figures to the hon. Member. The Central Government have rendered assistance to the extent of Rs. 121,99,681, the Gujarat Government have given Rs. 17 lakhs, the Ford Foundation has given Rs. 61,77,223; besides, they received fees by way of consultancy service fees, to the extent of Rs. 8,42,500. Apart from this, a sum of Rs. 12 lakhs is being given to the institute to meet their recurring expenditure.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: In spite of what the hon. Minister has stated, I must point out from the statement that has been laid by him on the Table of the House that the complaint which had been submitted for investigation by Mr. Wanchoo included the fact that appointment of certain persons, though justified on grounds of qualifications and competence and got approved by the governing council, were ill-advised. That is the finding of Mr. Wanchoo. The complaint was that members of the family/family friends were appointed by the Chairman to key positions in this organisation. I want to know whether the findings, although couched in very polite language that the appointments though justified on grounds of qualification and competence were ill-advised do not mean, in his opinion that this complaint has been largely substantiated. Secondly, there was also a complaint that the Governing Council was by-passed by the Chairman and was hustled through on important issues. Does he not think the finding which says that the Governing Council gave the Chairman rather too much freedom in conducting the activities of the Institute etc. significant? In view of all this, is it not a fact that the original allegation against Shri Gautam Sarabhai that he was running this Institute more or less as a private, pocket organisation has largely been substantiated? If so, what

advice has been given by Government to the Institute to take action in respect of appointments to see that safeguards will be there in future and the new Chairman and the Governing Council are not composed of people who function in this kind of closed cautious manner making the whole thing thing a private affair?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: I can quote a few lines from the summary of the report of the Wanchoo Committee in which the role of Shri Sarabhai has been referred to:

"In so far as the role of Shri Gautam Sarabhai on conducting the affairs of the Institute is concerned, it may be noted that Shri Wanchoo has come to the conclusion that the charges made against Shri Sarabhai regarding misuse of the Institute's facilities and other *mala fide* actions were unjustified and misconceived. Moreover, Shri Wanchoo has stated that the extraordinary devotion with which Shri Gautam Sarabhai has nurtured the Institute must be recognised and full credit for the positive achievements of the Institute so far must be given to him."

Regarding the appointment of the Executive Director and Chairman, as per the constitution and rules and regulations of the Institute, 7 members of the Governing Council including the Chairman are nominated by the Government of India. There are 3 ex-officio members.

In order to assess the whole situation of the Institute, a Review Committee has already been appointed regarding which I have mentioned in the text of the my original answer. Government are awaiting the report of the Committee which is expected by the end of this year and a decision regarding reorganisation and re-orientation of the Institute will be taken in the light of the observations of the Committee.

श्री मधु लिमये : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मन्त्री महोदय ने जो जानकारी सदन को दी है उसमें पता चलता है कि मोमन गावड़ ने जो आरोप लगाए थे वह तकरीबन सही सही

साबित हो गए। मैं मन्त्री महोदय से दो बातों की जानकारी चाहता हूँ। पहली—एक परिवार के प्रभाव से इसको मुक्त करने के लिए सरकार तत्काल कौन सी कार्यवाही कर रही है? दूसरी—जो रेव्यू कमेटी बनाई गई है उसकी सदस्य संख्या क्या है, कौन सदस्य हैं और उनको किस आधार पर चुना गया है—उनके कोई विशेष गुण हैं या कमिट्टि हैं इसलिए चुना गया है?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: I have already pointed out that the Chairman has resigned. The Executive Director is going to be appointed. Regarding the composition of the Governing Council, I have already pointed out that the Mayor of Ahmedabad and Chief Secretary to the Government of Gujarat are two ex-officio members. The Executive Director is appointed by the Governing Council; he is also an ex-officio member. Seven other members including the Chairman are appointed by the Government of India to the Governing Council.

श्री मधु लिमये : मेरे दूसरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं आया। रेव्यू कमेटी के सदस्यों को किस आधार पर चुना गया है— डिजाइन के बारे में उनकी विशेष गणवत्ता है या कमिट्टि हैं इसलिए चुना गया है?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: I have already answered this point in the text of the main answer. A Review Committee has been appointed under the chairmanship of Shri Ramesh Thapar with certain experts of international repute on the Committee.

श्री मधु लिमये : श्री थापर डिजाइन के विशेषज्ञ हैं?

Issue of Letters of Intent and Licences

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*384. **SHRI N. K. SANGHI:**
SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the *Times of India* dated the 27th