

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Stepping up of violent activities by
Mizo National Front:

+

SNQ. 25. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA:
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH
MALIK:

SHRI OM PRAKASH
..TYAGI:

SHRI KANWAR LAL
GUPTA:

SHRI GANGA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen press reports in various sections of the press that underground Mizo National Front has stepped up its violent activities in repudiation of the 1st July, 1976 peace accord by the rebel Mizo Leaders;

(b) if so, whether these underground Mizos are concentrating in and around Aizawl and Lungleh towns in the Union Territory of Mizoram; and

(c) whether any preventive measures have since been adopted by Government and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have seen some press reports on the subject.

(b) There is no such information.

(c) The Government are keeping a close watch on the developments and suitable measures are in force to deal appropriately with any situation which may arise.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: Mr. Speaker, the reply is merely to the effect that the government has seen some reports in the Press. Will the hon. Minister tell this House categorically whether there has been an increase in violent activities in recent times?

SHRI CHARAN SINGH: Not yet.

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a tendency of separation has been growing in Mizoram for the last thirty years due to the faulty policy of the Congress Government. I want to know from the hon. Home Minister as to what new policy the Janata Government wants to adopt to integrate this region in the interest of the country.

SHRI CHARAN SINGH: The debris left by the Congress is yet to be cleared.

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: I wanted to know the policy of the Janata Government.

SHRI CHARAN SINGH: It is the Janata Government which will have to clear the debris and frame new policies. It is yet to do it.

श्री श्रीमत् प्रकाश त्यागी : क्या यह समाचार सच है कि लालडोंगा ने जब से सरकार से समझौता किया, तब से शान्तिकाल में—वहाँ पर ग्रैंडरॉयल मिज़ोज की सेना के लिए नौजवानों की भर्ती हुई, गांवों में राज्य-विरोधी गतिविधियों के लिए चंदा इकट्ठा किया गया और कुछ नौजवान बर्मा से होते हुए ट्रेनिंग के लिए चाइना भेजे गये, यदि हाँ, तो सरकार ने उन गतिविधियों को रोकने की दिशा में क्या कदम उठाये हैं ?

श्री चरण सिंह : यह बात सही है कि श्री लालडोंगा ने गवर्नमेंट के साथ जो फ़ैसला किया था, अब वह उस से फिसल रहे हैं, उस को छोड़ रहे हैं, उस पर जमे हुए नहीं हैं। हो सकता है कि वह अपने लोगों को धारों के लिए कोई तैयारी कर रहे करवाने के लिए किसी तरीके से यह खबर भिजवा रहे हैं। लेकिन मैं माननीय मित्रों और सदस्यों को यह ध्यास्वासन देना चाहता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट इस मामले में सजग है, और धगर कर रहे हैं।

पड़ी, तो जितने भी आवश्यक कदम है, गवर्नमेंट वे कदम उठायेगी, और जितनी भी शक्ति के इस्तेमाल करने की जरूरत होगी, वह शक्ति इस्तेमाल करेगी।

श्री कंबल लाल गुप्त : मैं मंत्री महोदय के स्टेटमेंट का स्वागत करता हूँ और उन से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सही है कि लालडेंगा पहले देश-विरोधी कार्यवाहियां करने पर गिरफ्तार किया गया था, मगर जेल से छूटने के बाद उस ने गलत गतिविधियां शुरू कर दीं, और अब पोस एकाई करने के बाद भी उस ने अपनी स्टीच टैप रिकार्ड कर के रेबल मिजोर्ग के पास भिजवाई, जहां वह सुनाई जाती है, और इस के अलावा उस ने अपने भाई को एक पत्र लिखा है, जिसमें साफ तौर से कहा गया है कि एकाई को न माना जाये। क्या मंत्री महोदय यह आश्वासन देंगे कि लालडेंगा के साथ जब तक किसी प्रकार की वार्ता नहीं होगी, तब तक वह भारत के संविधान को न माने और यह स्वोकार न करे कि मिजोरम भारत का हिस्सा है ? क्या प्रधान मंत्री जी से भी उस की कोई बातचीत हुई है, अगर हां, तो क्या बातचीत हुई है ?

श्री चरण सिंह : जहां तक मिजोरम के हिन्दुस्तान का अंग होने की बात है, उस में गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से कोई डोल, या कमजोरी, या काम्प्रोमाइस का सवाल नहीं उठता है। कोई तीन महीने हुए—शायद अप्रैल की बात है—कि वह प्रधान मंत्री जी से मिले थे। लेकिन उस वक्त वह मीठी मीठी बातें कर रहे थे—उस से भी कीं और मुझ से भी कीं। लेकिन अब प्रेस रिपोर्ट्स से मालूम होता है कि उन के एटीच्यूड में फर्क है। जो फैसला उन्होंने किया था, वह उस से खिसकना चाहते हैं।

श्री मनोराम बागड़ी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह जो लालडेंगा बात कर के गए और तीन महीने तक जो उन की गतिविधियां बदलती रहीं, क्या ऐसा कोई कानून नहीं था कि जब

गृह मंत्री को मामलू हुआ कि वह अपनी नीति और जो फैसला है उस से विचलित हो रहे हैं तो वह कानून हरकत में आ जाये ? इससे पहले की वह जहर फैले या प्रचार फैले क्या ऐसा कोई कायदा कानून नहीं है जो उस जहर को रोकने के लिए हरकत में आ जाये ?

श्री चरण सिंह : सवाल तो मुझ को बहुत साफ नहीं हुआ है। लेकिन इस में कोई कानून बगैरह का सवाल नहीं है कि कोई इस के लिए विशेष कानून होता। कानून तो साफ है और दुनिया का जो तरीका है वह साफ है कि कोई आदमी फैसले पर जमा न रहे तो उस के खिलाफ कार्यवाही की जा सकती है। लेकिन यहां एक व्यक्ति या दो व्यक्तियों का सवाल नहीं है। एक इलाका है विशेष, उस के साथ गवर्नमेंट कैसा वर्ताव करे, उस में बहुत सोचने समझने की जरूरत होती है। हम कोई मौका ऐसा नहीं देना चाहते जिसमें उनको यह शिकायत हो या और किसी को शिकायत हो कि हमने जल्दबाजी का और उनको पूरा मौका नहीं दिया। बस, इसी अपने खयाल और तकल्लुफ के कारण ऐसे मामलों में कभी कभी देर हो जाया करती है और फिर दूसरी बात यह है कि जो दूसरा फरीक बात कहता है वह बिल्कुल गोल बात कहता है, बिल्कुल साफ बात तो नहीं कहता है जैसे मनीराम बागड़ी कहते हैं। इसलिए बहुत विचारने की बात है।

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: The Home Minister gave the information that Mr. Laldenga, after having discussions and consultations with him and the Prime Minister...

SHRI CHARAN SINGH: I was under the impression that he had seen the Prime Minister. But I understand now that he did not see the Prime Minister. He met me and the officers only.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: That does not change my question. After having discussions with the Home Minister, the Home Minister

now feels that Mr. Laldenga is rather hesitating or dragging his feet for keeping his word. Will the Home Minister tell the House as to what he thinks are the reasons for it? Does he think that there are any indications of any support or promised support from any foreign power? I say this because the history of Mizoram and Mr. Laldenga is such that he has always operated and got support from some foreign power in his activities. This is a physical fact of life and you will have to take this position into account. Has the Home Minister tried to go into this and can he share his confidence, if at all he can, and tell us what exactly are the realities?

SHRI CHARAN SINGH: The inference which the hon. leader of the opposition has drawn from Mr. Laldenga's conduct may well be right, but we have no information on that point. The leader of the opposition asked whether any foreign power is backing him and whether the reason for his hesitation consists in this fact, that is, the support of foreign power. I said about this that his inference may well be correct, but we have no information about that.

MR. SPEAKER: Would you enquire into the matter?

SHRI CHARAN SINGH: I will try to ascertain.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: We are not dealing with the Mizo problem properly. We must have information. What are the intelligence services doing about it?

MR. SPEAKER: He says that he will enquire into the matter:

DR. R. ROTHUAMA: Regarding the so-called violent activity of the underground reported recently in the Press, I also came across those things. I was asked by my party-men to go to Mizoram and see the situation myself, and they requested me to go with Mrs. Jaipal Singh. But when I asked her to come, she said that since the

1797 LS-2.

Lok Sabha session was going on and since there will be rains in Mizoram, I should go alone and see the situation myself, and give a first-hand and correct report and then come back and tell her.

Recently—I do not remember the date—there was a statement in the Press that Naik Thankima was shot dead by the so-called underground personnel, fired from a church compound at Lungleh town. The fact was that the person who killed Naik Thankima was not an underground man, but a person belonging to the MRP (MIZO RAM POLICE) Mr. Biakhula.

Nowadays there are certain special forces under Mizoram Armed Police in Mizoram. I wanted to bring this to the notice of the Home Minister also. All the Mizo people are fed up with underground activities. We don't want violence. We want peace, but

there are some special forces of Mizoram Armed Police (MAP) particularly in Mizoram, under the guidance of some high officials, which are out to create an artificial law and order problem. I do not want to mention their names. I want to know whether government have come to know of this attitude of special forces as well as high officials.

While going to Mizoram, before reaching Aijal i.e. about 10 Kms. from there, I met some people belonging to these special forces of MAP on the way at 2 in the early morning. The number of their vehicle was ZRP-16. When they saw our people, they tried to harass some of us. I kept quiet. I waited silently. But I got down when one of our drivers was threatened. They threatened to shoot him. So, I asked: "Who are you? One of their commanding officers, an inspector by name Lalchungnua was wearing a mask. When he saw me, he took off all those things. He told me: "Oh, you are here? You come in my jeep." I refused. Along with him,

there were about 6 to 10 persons in the jeep. This happened 10 Kms. away from Aijal, capital of Mizoram. After leaving us, they proceeded to Sihapir village, where they let loose their reign of terror. They threaten to shoot people because they say they are above the law, and that they can shoot anybody.

All these facts I collected myself. I think it will take time.

MR. SPEAKER: I allowed you because you come from that area. Please put the question.

DR. R. ROTHUAMA: Yesterday morning I came. I should also say that I do not know the present position in Mizoram completely. This is their attitude. I don't think the present Central Government here will be aware of all these things. I myself did not know these things. Our party leaders are afraid that if we communicate this matter i.e. the creation of an artificial law and order problem, those special forces might shoot us down and also take revenge against those people who report. I can tell the whole thing if I have the time. There are some officials who want to create a law and order problem. In Mizoram the special forces of Mizoram Armed Police are doing this. I would request the Home Minister to have an on-the-spot study of this problem by sending out a team of MPs of different political parties so that they could appreciate the problem. During the emergency all sorts of bad things were done there. So far as my sentiment is concerned, I am completely against any violence. But I would request the Prime Minister to appreciate the psychological character of the Mizo people. In fact, all the hill tribes are taken to be head hunters. Some officials, without knowing the truth, without verifying the truth, torture these people. So, they are tempted to take revenge. I believe they have been

compelled to go underground because they have been treated like this. The armed forces have no understanding of this particular traits of these people. That is why the local people are compelled to use force. I am very happy to have this opportunity to explain my viewpoint. I would request the Home Minister to make high level inquiry including M.Ps of different political parties to go into this.

MR. SPEAKER: Probably he wants to say that there is counter violence by the police forces. He wants you to enquire into the matter and ensure that counter violence is not there.

SHRI CHARAN SINGH: As far as I am able to understand, there is only one particular incident, to which the hon. Member has referred, an incident in which Mr. Thanki was involved. That case is still under investigation.

MR. SPEAKER: His case is that higher officials are using violence and, therefore, the Mizos are reacting to it. Would you like to go into it?

SHRI CHARAN SINGH: I do not agree that higher officers are using violence and that is why the Mizos want independence. That in a way is a justification for the MNF. I do not agree with that.

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose—

MR. SPEAKER: No further questions please. I am not allowing any more questions.