

PROF. DILIP CHAKRAVARTY: This question relates to the economic well-being and prosperity of the whole of the north-eastern region of India and that is why I wanted the Minister to give us a more detailed statement regarding the quantum of loss incurred by the industries in the eastern region including West Bengal. But in the Annexure of the written statement laid on the Table of the House by the Minister, information has been given only in respect of some of the important industries. The heading is 'some of the important industries' and not all the industries. I appreciate his effort for supplying this information regarding some of the important industries. But what I wanted to know from him was the total quantum of losses effected by the recent power cut. Sir, according to an Expert on Power Supply, I have been informed, if the present state of affairs continue for some time, by June 1980, the supply of power will be zero. I shudder to think what will be the consequences of such a situation. I would like the Minister to tell us whether the losses have been quantified both in terms of money as a whole as also in terms of the share that would have accrued to labour and its social effects.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: It has not been possible to quantify these losses both in terms of the wages lost by the workers or in terms of the total production. One of course can identify it in respect of some of the industries. For instance, in respect of the Engineering industry, the five day power cut in West Bengal created a situation where each day the industry was losing a production of about 3.5 crores. Similarly, in respect of some of the larger units, it has been possible to quantify it. But otherwise, quantification of the actual loss in terms of production industrywise has not been possible.

PROF. DILIP CHAKRAVARTY: From the Annexure it will be found that list contains only 4 units of Bihar. Only that 4 units of Bihar have been mentioned. One unit of Orissa has been mentioned. They are stated to be suffering from power shortage. But there is none from Assam which has been mentioned. Am I to presume that no production has been affected there due to shortage of power supply in Assam? Then, I would like also to know whether, in view of the very precarious position of power supply, any attempt to offer nuclear power is being made and whether there are any plans to have decentralised units of power production with a quicker pace of productivity. May I know whether such a thing is contemplated or not?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: The list contains—as the hon. Member has himself observed—only some of the more important units which are affected because of the inadequacy of power. So far as Assam is concerned, Assam does not have any major industrial units. The Bongaigaon or the Dighoi refineries are perhaps among the few that exist there. As far as these units are concerned, there has not been any problem of power supply or on keeping them going. Regarding the latter part of the question, I think, the hon. Member will have to address the question to the Minister of Energy.

SHRI DHIRENDRANATH BASU: There is an acute shortage of power in the Eastern region of the country. More than 45% of the installed capacity of the industries are not being utilised as a result of which many of the industries are running at loss and some of the industries are under closure. I understand many industries have served notices for closure and many have served notices for lock-outs. May I know from the hon. Minister how many industries have served notices for closure and how many have served notices for lock-outs?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I have no figures with me and I require notice for this.

मिजोरम में एस० डी० ओ० को हत्या

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* 45. श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव :

श्री एम० राम गोपाल रेड्डी :

क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मिजो नेशनल फ्रंट के विद्रोहियों द्वारा गैर मिजो निवासियों को 1 जुलाई, 1979 से पूर्व मिजोरम छोड़ने हेतु नोटिस दिये जाने के कारण एक सब-डिविजनल अधिकारी, श्री चौधरी की हत्या कर दी गई है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि इस घटना के पीछे किसी विदेशी व्यक्ति का हाथ है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो विदेशी तत्वों के साथ निबटने और यह मुनिश्चित करने हेतु कि भविष्य में ऐसी घटनाएं न हों सरकार का क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Shri R. C. Chaudhary, Sub-Divisional Officer, P.W.D. Saitual was kidnapped in the night of 19th June, 1979 and was shot dead near Saitual by unknown miscreants, suspected to be members of the Mizo National Front.

(b) The Government have no information about involvement of any foreign power in this incident.

(c) Since Mizo National Front members were involved in the incident, the Mizo National Front and its allied organisations have, since, been declared unlawful under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. The President of the MNF has been taken into custody.

श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव : पूर्वोत्तर सीमा पर और मिजोरम राज्य में विगत कई वर्षों से पृथक्कृतावादी तत्व विदेशी ताकतों से साठगांठ कर के हिंसा की कार्रवाइयों में संलग्न रहे हैं। विगत 15 जनवरी, 1975 को मिजोरम के आई जी, डी आई जी और एजल के एस पी की आई जी के सम्मेलन कक्ष में गोली मार कर हत्या कर दी गई थी। इस घटना के बाद भी सरकार ने पी डब्ल्यू डी के उप मंडल अधिकारी श्री धार० सी० चौधरी जिस का अपहरण 13 जून, 1979 को किया गया था बचाने का प्रबन्ध नहीं किया और उनकी हत्या कर दी गई। 15 जनवरी, 1975 की घटना से सबक ले कर उनकी जान बचाने और गैर मिजो अधिकारियों और लोगों की रक्षा करने के लिए जो कि मिजोरम के विकास के कामों में लगे हुए हैं, सरकार ने कौन कौन से कदम उठाए हैं, यह मैं आप से जानना चाहता हूँ।

SHRI H. M. PATEL: After the 1975 incident to which he refers, various steps were taken. In July 1976 an understanding was reached between the representatives of Mizo Underground who were responsible for the murder of the I.G. and others. The underground Mizos acknowledged that Mizoram was an integral part of India and conveyed to the Government of India their resolve to accept the settlement of all problems of Mizoram within the framework of the Constitution of India. Since then, there have been regular Governments, and the latest was installed in office at the end of April last. The elections were held peacefully. It elected a party which won with a very considerable majority and it formed a Government. Thereafter the Mizo National Front once again decided to take to the path of violence. Therefore, there is no question of not taking any steps. Stringent measures have to be taken and are being taken for maintaining peace.

श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव : 15 जनवरी 1975 को जब आई जी, डी आई जी, एस पी की हत्या हुई थी उससे सबक लेकर वहां की सरकार ने जो गैर मिजो लोग हैं और जो विकास कार्यों में रत हैं उनको सुरक्षा प्रदान करने के कौन से कदम उठाए हैं इसका उत्तर नहीं दिया गया है।

मंत्री महोदय ने उत्तर में बताया है कि किसी विदेशी ताकत का हाथ नहीं है। भाये दिन सग्रा चारपत्तों में इस प्रकार की घटनाएं घा रही हैं कि मिजो फ्रंट के विद्रोही लोगों को बंगला देश में शरण दी जा रही है और जो पकड़े गये हैं मिजो फ्रंट के कुछ पदाधिकारी तथा नेता उन्होंने कबूल भी किया है कि वे लोग बंगला देश में रहते थे और वहां से इधर आकर उपद्रव किया करते थे। बराबर समाचारपत्रों में इस प्रकार की घटनाओं का जिक्र आ रहा है कि चीन उनको हर तरह का सहयोग और आम्बं और एम्पूनिशन दे रहा है। वहां पर एक प्रथक राज्य बनाना चाहता है और एक गलियारा बना कर के बोर्डर पर स्थित मिजोरम राज्य का उपयोग करना चाहता है। ऐसी हालत में मैं गृह मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या केवल श्री लाल डेंगा को गिरफ्तार कर लेने से या उनके ऊपर देशद्रोहिता का मुकदमा चला कर वहां की स्थिति पर काबू पाना चाहते हैं। इसलिये मैं चाहता हूँ कि वहां पर विकास की गति को तेज किया जाय ताकि वहां के लोगों में एक भावना बने कि वह भी इस देश के अभिन्न अंग हैं।

दूसरा प्रश्न मेरा यह है कि वहां पर ईसाई मिशनरीज बहुत तीव्र गति से कार्यरत हैं और वहां यह मिशनरीज लाल डेंगा और मीजो फ्रंट के लोगों को उक्सा कर इस प्रकार के कार्य में सहयोग प्रदान करते हैं। तो क्या गृह मंत्री जी ऐसे मिशनरीज पर कुछ निगरानी रखेंगे ताकि भविष्य में इस प्रकार की घटना की पुनरावृत्ति न कर सकें?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: It is not correct that the Chinese are giving any assistance at the moment to underground Mizos. It is, of course, true that the underground Mizos, Mizo National Front people, have made their headquarters in some part of Bangladesh. This matter was taken up by our Prime Minister when he went recently to Bangladesh and the Bangladesh Government had given an assurance that they would take appropriate steps to see that these people are not given any harbour in their territory. Nevertheless, it may well be that some Mizos are there, but they are not being given assistance by Bangladesh Government.

In so far as the question of Christian missionaries is concerned, I may say that 90% of the Mizo population is Christian. There is no question of any greater missionary activities now being necessary for converting more people to Christianity.

श्रीमती रसोबा हक चौधरी : अध्यक्ष जी, मेरा प्रश्न है कि जो श्री रवीन्द्र चौधरी मारे गये हैं उनकी फ्रेमिली भी वहाँ रहती है, उनके लिये सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने कम्पेन्सेशन देने के लिये कुछ काम किया है?

दूसरी बात यह है कि जो नान-मीजो लोग एजक्स में हैं बैसिकली वह लोग बिजनेसमैन, शोप कीपर्स और बर्नमेन्ट आफिसियल्स हैं, तो उन लोगों की सेफ्टी के लिये सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाये हैं ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: So far as the family of Shri Chaudhary is concerned, every possible help will be given and it has already been decided upon by the Government. If more help is necessary, it can be considered.

In so far as the safety of non-Mizos in Aizwal and other parts of Mizoram is concerned, very strong security measures have been taken and it is also a fact that after these measures, there has been no loss of life of non-Mizos in Mizoram. There have, of course, been some deaths in so far as the security forces themselves are concerned. There have also been certain attempts on the life of Government security forces, but not of the ordinary citizens.

SHRI PURNANARAYAN SINHA: May I know from the hon. Minister whether there was an altercation between the officer, Shri Chaudhary and two Mizo youths at a place where he was staying and a lot of money was extracted from him by these youths according to the statement made by the servant who was present there and who understood the Mizo language. Has any investigation been made? And whatever may be the facts, is the Minister prepared to lay them on the Table of the House, so that the extent of danger to the non-Mizos is assessed and appropriate measures taken by the Government, to help the non-Mizos and particularly the residents of Assam who are residing in Mizoram?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I have already said that every possible measure is being taken to ensure the safety of the non-Mizos, in Mizoram. About the other question, whether there was some altercation between Mr. Chaudhri and some Mizos just before the incident which led to his death, there is no such information available with us.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: It appears to me that the Minister has understated the situation in Mizoram. What is happening is that there is a tremendous amount of attack on the non-Mizo population. Even the statement that foreign powers have not intervened, is belied by the report that there were weapons seized which contained Chinese markings. Has that matter been gone into? Is there any truth in the report that the Government has decided

to take over the administration of Mizoram and hand it over to the Army?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: No, Sir. There is no decision whatsoever and no need to take over the administration of Mizoram and hand it over to the Army. There is a properly elected Government which is confident of managing the affairs supported, of course, by adequate security forces. About the suggestion that there were some Chinese markings, it may well be so. After all, the Chinese were formerly supplying some arms. That I have already said; but those supplies have stopped.

Modification of Official Secrets Act, 1923

*46. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR:

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Official Secrets Act, 1923 continues to be preserved and implemented in tact;

(b) if so, reasons for not affecting any amendments thereof;

(c) whether the present Government had appointed a Working Group in 1977 at the instance of the then Home Minister to explore the possibilities of the modification of the said 56-year old Act;

(d) if so, who were its members and when did they submit their report;

(e) the broad details of the recommendations of the said report; and

(f) whether Government have accepted or rejected the said Report and reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (f). The Official Secrets Act, 1923, with minor amendments enacted during the post-independence period, is still in force.

A Study Group consisting of Joint Secretaries of the Ministries of Law and Home Affairs and representatives of the Ministry of Defence and the Intelligence Bureau was set up in 1976, to review the provisions of the Act, so as to deal more effectively with espionage activities.

The Study Group submitted its report on 19-7-1978. It was sent to State Governments for their comments. Majority of them have furnished their comments on the report and these are currently under examination.