

to the Government of U. S. that they can wait up to this point and no farther and, if they do not say 'yes' or 'no', Government will proceed with such arrangement it wants to make in this regard?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: It is not provided in the agreement; that is the difficulty. I wish they had provided for that when the agreement was made. But we are trying to find out as to what can be done. Even among the best of friends, there can be points of difference; that is life, what can be done? We do not therefore break up the friendship!

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: I have never hinted or suggested that we should break up our friendship with the U. S....

MR. SPEAKER: Now, I am linking Qns. 24 and 28 together.

Alleged foreign hand in Naga Raid on Assam Villages

*24. **SHRI K. MALLANNA:**

DR. RAMJI SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the competent observers with intimate knowledge of Nagaland suspect the hand of some foreign agency in the recent raids by armed Nagas on some Villages on the Assam-Nagaland Border;

(b) whether it is a fact that they rule out the possibility of any role in the savage attacks, which resulted in heavy casualties, for Naga rebels now camping in Burmese territory across the Nagaland border and engaged in talks with members of the Nagaland Peace Council on the Shillong accord of November, 1975; and

(c) if so, what efforts have been made by the Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL):
(a) Government have no information.

(b) Information with the Government of India would rule out that possibility.

(c) A detailed statement relating to the incidents along the Assam-Nagaland boundary is being furnished in response to Starred Question No. 28 listed for today. I visited the area on 14-1-79 and later the Home Minister on 1-2-79. Government of India is keeping in close touch with the State Government, with a view to ensuring that peace is maintained and restoring a sense of confidence among the people of the area affected.

Naga attack on Border Villages of Assam

+

*28. **SHRI GYANESHWAR**

PRASAD YADAV:
SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some armed Nagas attacked some border villages of Assam on the 5th January, 1979;

(b) if so, details of the incident; and

(c) what preventive measures have been taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c). According to information received, during the small hours of January 5, 1979, a number of persons armed with daos, spears and guns, simultaneously attacked some villages in Diphu, Renga and Nambor South reserve forests within Assam on the Assam-Nagaland border.

According to information received, 13 villages were affected by the attack in which about 400 thatched houses were burnt. About 50 persons are estimated to have lost their lives. 69 persons sustained injuries, 17 of whom had to be hospitalised. A number of persons fled their homes in the neighbouring areas due to fear. The State Government of Assam set up 11 camps which at its peak housed over 20,000 evacuees. Most of these have since returned to their homes. The Assam Police have arrested 42 persons, while the Nagaland police have arrested 58 persons in connection with the raids.

The State Governments of Assam and Nagaland have been striving to restore normalcy. At the field level senior civil and police officers of both the States have undertaken joint measures to prevent further incidents or retaliatory moves, to apprehend offenders and to expedite rehabilitation measures. The patrolling of the affected areas has been entrusted to the Central Reserve Police Force and Assam Rifles in order to restore a sense of confidence in the minds of both the Nagas and the non-Nagas. A coordinating authority consisting of senior civil and police officials of both States has been set up to review periodically the progress of the arrangements made for restoration of normalcy, apprehension of offenders, exchange of information, sorting out difficulties, if any, etc.

SHRI K. MALLANNA: It is very unfortunate that part (a) of my question has not been answered. In Nagaland and in other North-Eastern part of the country, Christian Missionaries are dominant and they have done a great deal for the welfare of the tribals. They have always been indulging in keeping those people away from the mainstream of national life. China has continued to train the insurgent Nagas and the emergence of pro-Chinese Communist Party in Nagaland is significant in this connection. In July 1978, six fully armed Chinese trained insurgents were ar-

rested. There are indications of attempts to carve out a new State under the Chinese influence with the help of these secessionist elements. In spite of this, the Government says that it has no information. Naga insurgents are reported to be concentrating on the Indo-Burma Borders. May I know from the hon. Minister in this context what is the reaction of the Government and what steps have been taken to curb the activities in the North-Eastern States?

SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL: For the part (a) of his question, that is, whether it is a fact that the competent observers with intimate knowledge of Nagaland suspect the hand of some foreign agency in the recent raids by armed Nagas on some villages on the Assam-Nagaland Border, my answer is that Government has no information. The hon. Member has said that part (a) of his question has not been answered. But it has been answered. As regards his supplementary question, I want to say that people in Nagaland have embraced Christianity. There is no doubt about it. At least a majority of people, not all, but a majority of people have embraced Christianity. But in this raid on the Assam-border, how can this inference be drawn. Is it simply because those people have embraced Christianity, you suspect them and you draw this inference? I do not myself draw this inference, unless that is established. Therefore, I have said that we have no information on this. As regards Chinese trained insurgents raids last year, I may inform you that some Chinese-trained Nagas were arrested in Nagaland when they attempted to overpower our Police force there. Now that they were arrested, I think the hon. Member is drawing this inference that some involvement is there. But unless it is established, we are not going to draw that kind of inference. Secondly, there was a rumour that some negotiations were going on on the Indo-Burma border area around Nagaland, between the

ex-underground Nagas and some Chinese-trained Nagas and I think on the basis of this rumour, an inference has been drawn. But we are not going to draw any inference. There is no question of drawing any inference and for that the Government has no information.

SHRI K. MALLANNA: My second supplementary is this. There are border disputes not only between Nagaland and Assam but also among the North-Eastern States like Manipur, Tripura and Mizoram. May I know from the hon. Minister what steps have been taken to ease out the border disputes, apart from the States taking any action on solving these problems? It is stated that some Commissions have also been appointed to solve these problems. May I know from the hon. Minister what steps have been taken by the Central Government to solve these problems?

SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL: All the steps are being taken and there is complete peace and normalcy. I may also inform the hon. Member that immediately after these incidents, the Prime Minister and the then Home Minister got in touch with the Assam Chief Minister and the Nagaland Chief Minister, talked to them, and asked them to restore normalcy immediately and that there should be no retaliatory measures on the part of Nagaland and on the part of Assam. They should get in touch with one another, their officials should get in touch with one another and immediately sort out their problems, and restore normalcy. Immediately after that, on the advice of the Prime Minister, I visited that area, Assam-Nagaland border, those affected areas, and also talked to the Assam Chief Minister, Nagaland Minister and also the officials. I also visited other places and reported the matter to the Prime Minister, whatever I had to report, and action was taken. Then you said about the Lt. Governor: a conference with the Chief Ministers of Assam and Nagaland. Our Home

Minister visited that place on First February, 1979 and Sorted out all those problems. All the steps are being taken and there is complete peace and normalcy now.

डा० रावजी सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, गुह-राज्य मंत्री ने कहा है कि कोई सूचना नहीं है, लेकिन सीबियत न्यूज एजेंसी, तास ने लिखा है कि—

"The (Naga) insurgents, who are carrying out acts of subversion against the Indian Government, undergo military training in Chinese territory and they are supplied with arms, radio equipment and propaganda literature by Peking."

दूसरे हिन्दुस्तान के "नेशनल हेराल्ड" और "पेट्रियार्ड" ने भी इस सिद्धांत को माना है कि नागालैंड के क्लैम में चाइनीज इन्सर्जेंट्स का हाथ है। यह कहा तक राजनीतिक है, यह तो आप बतायेंगे लेकिन यहाँ पर दूसरे लोगों ने, खासकर डा० धरम, जो कि नागालैंड पीस काउंसिल में काम किए हुए हैं, उन्होंने और नागालैंड के गवर्नर ने कहा कि उनका कोई हाथ नहीं है। वस्तुतः यह दो विरोधी बातें आपके सामने हैं, क्या आपने इनका अध्ययन किया है ?

— एक बात और है कि जब हमारे माननीय प्रधान मंत्री वहाँ गये थे तो उनसे एक व्यक्ति ने पूछा कि 16-प्वाइन्ट प्रोग्राम के बारे में आपका क्या विचार है तो प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा था कि—

"There is no such thing like 16-point programme."

उसी समय से खासतौर पर नागालैंड में यह झंझट चल रहा था। नागालैंड के मुख्यमंत्री ने तीन तरह की बातें कहीं हैं :—

1. "I blame the Centre.
2. Assam Policy may have provoked raid.
3. This is the work of miscreants."

तो इन सारी समस्याओं का अध्ययन करते हुए क्या सरकार समझती है कि इसमें विदेशियों का हाथ है ? नागालैंड और आसाम का जो सीमा संबंध अभी तक नहीं हुआ है और डा० सुन्दरम की रिपोर्ट पर सरकार ने विचार नहीं किया है, तो इस बारे में सरकार की क्या राय है ?

MR. SPEAKER: Everything is a speech.

श्री धनिक लाल मंडल : मैंने यह कहा है कि हमारे जो रिपोर्टर्स हैं और उनसे जो सूचनाएं हमारे पास हैं, उनसे हम इस निष्कर्ष पर पहुंचे हैं कि विदेशी तत्वों का इसमें हाथ नहीं है। माननीय सदस्य ने "तास" और दूसरी एजेंसियों का हवाला देते हुए कहा है, तो उन सब को भी ध्यान में रखा गया है, ऐसी बात नहीं है कि हम बेखबर हैं, लेकिन अभी ऐसा कोई प्रमाण और सूचना नहीं है, यह मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूँ।

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record.

(Interruptions)**

श्री धनिक लाल मंडल : मेरी का मतलब सरकार से है, मैं सरकारी जानकारी के माध्यम पर ही बतला रहा हूँ। (ब्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you are only to answer the question.

श्री जालेश्वर प्रसाद बाबू : मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान इस बात की ओर ले जाना चाहता हूँ कि ठीक इस आक्रमण के पहले नागालैंड और आसाम के मुख्यमंत्रियों का सम्मेलन हुआ था और सारी बातें तय हो गई थीं। उस सम्मेलन में जो समझौते हुए थे, उसको नकारात्मक रूप देने के लिये यह विदेशी मिशनरियाँ, ईसाई मिशनरियाँ जो पृथक्तावादी नीति में विश्वास रखती हैं, जिन्होंने बराबर आसाम में, जब नागालैंड नहीं बना था और छोटे छोटे राज्य भी पूर्ववर्ती क्षेत्रों में नहीं बने थे, इन्होंने इस प्रकार यहां आक्रमण किया। ये लोग पृथक्तावादी मनोवृत्ति के हैं और इनकी नेशनलिटी पर भी संदेह व्यक्त किया जाता है और ये विदेशों में जाकर प्रशिक्षित होते हैं। आसाम और नागालैंड के मुख्य मंत्रियों के बीच में जो समझौता हुआ था, उसको नकारात्मक रूप देने के लिए उनकी इस प्रकार की साजिश थी। मेरा प्रश्न यह भी था कि इस विषय में सरकार क्या प्रिंसेंटिव गवर्नर लेने जा रही है। लेकिन मंत्री महोदय ने इस बारे में स्पष्ट रूप से नहीं बतलाया है। जब तक उस रिजन के लोगों को राष्ट्रीयता की मुख्य धारा में नहीं लाया जायेगा, तब तक इस प्रकार की गतिविधियाँ वहाँ जारी रहेंगी। क्या सरकार दस दिना में कोई कारगर कदम उठायेगी ?

श्री धनिक लाल मंडल : 2 जनवरी को कोहिमा में आसाम और नागालैंड के चीफ मिनिस्टर मिले थे और उन लोगों ने एक एग्रीमेंट भी किया था जो प्रखबारों में भी आया है। उसके बाद 4 तारीख की रात को 12 बजे यह घटना हुई थी। इस से यह इनफेरेंस ड्रा किया जा सकता है, यह अनुमान लगाया जा सकता है कि आसाम और नागालैंड के चीफ मिनिस्टर्स में जो यह समझौता हुआ था कि मैं शान्तिपूर्ण ढंग से और भांगसी बातचीत से इस विवाद को हल करेंगे,

उसको कस्ट्रेट करने के लिए आसाम के बार्डर पर 4 तारीख की यह घटना हुई थी। माननीय सदस्य ने क्रिश्चियन मिशनरीज के बारे में जो जोर दिया है, उसके बारे में मैंने बार-बार कहा है, और मैं पुनः दोहराना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे पास ऐसा कोई प्रमाण नहीं है। लेकिन माननीय सदस्य ने जो यह कहा है कि उन लोगों को राष्ट्रीय मुख्य धारा में लाना है, वह प्रबन्ध ही विचारणीय है। हमारे उत्तर-पूर्व सीमांत के लोगों को राष्ट्रीय मुख्य धारा में लाया जाये, इसके बारे में प्रबन्ध प्रयत्न किया जायेगा।

SHRI CHARAN NARZARY: The issue is very grave. I hail from that part of the country. Many factors are believed to be responsible for the incident. Quite a large number of people have been affected there and most of them are tribals, local people of Assam. Some Nepalese are there and some people believed to be from Bangla Desh are also there. I personally happened to be there for some days. I am constantly in touch with the affected people till to-day. People had been coming to me when I was there and they are coming here also. Since the matter is very very grave it should be discussed threadbare. I have certain questions to ask.

The so-called border dispute between Assam and Nagaland is there. For that Sundaram Committee was appointed. The Report of the Sundaram Committee has not yet been published. What is there, we do not know. Why has it not been made public till to-day? The Border dispute should be settled once for all. Innocent people on either side should not be victimised. This is one question.

Border dispute is not only there between Assam and Nagaland; it is there between Meghalaya and Assam and between Arunachal and Assam as well. People living in the adjoining areas in the border within Assam territory have been constantly threatened till to-day and some news have already appeared in papers.

MR. SPEAKER: We will have an opportunity to discuss it on the Home Ministry debate.

SHRI CHARAN NARZARY: The total number of people involved in the incident runs over 20,000 involving 4,000 families, as officially reported there in the State.

MR. SPEAKER: Will you kindly come to the question?

SHRI CHARAN NARZARY: Whether the Government is aware of the fact that rehabilitation work has not been carried out effectively there? Is the Government aware of the fact that the affected people could not go to their original places because of constant threat posed from Nagaland side?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI H. M. PATEL). The hon. Member is exercised very much about the conditions on the border between Assam and Nagaland where these troubles arose. Although he says that he belongs to that area I have recently been there on two occasions and I know that conditions are now very near normal. The residents of the villages which were affected, have now gone back. The only villages, the residents of which have not completely gone back, are certain Naga villages, and those Nagas are apprehensive of the possible arrest and so on. But they are also being given assurance that if they are not involved, nothing will happen to them. There is no question of uneasiness now because both the Chief Ministers have met and come to some understanding and those understandings are being carried out.

The hon. member referred to border disputes with other States like Meghalaya, Mizoram and so on. We are aware of those disputes and they are going to be settled through discussions. We have written to them. Ultimately, the major point which was also conveyed to them....

SHRI CHARAN NARZARY: When is this dispute going to be settled?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Well, nobody can tell you because you being the resident of that place, should be aware

that these are not matters which can be settled just like that. We have to settle them but we can settle them only through persuasion and try and see....
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Kindly don't answer that question.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: For instance, there were certain disputes. The Sundaram Committee Report has been made available to both the Chief Ministers of Nagaland and Assam.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Why not to the Parliament?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: This is not a matter about which the House needs be concerned. It is in the public interest.... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Kindly answer only the question put by the hon. Member. If you answer questions of all the 400 members, then you will not be able to answer.
(Interruptions)

SHRI H. M. PATEL: This is a matter which on their own saying, is very delicate. (Interruptions)
The Sundaram Committee Report was submitted much before this Government came in and it was considered advisable to keep it secret. Now, when this dispute arose and the question of settlement of the boundaries came up, the Prime Minister considered it very desirable that both the Chief Ministers at least should know what the findings of the Sundaram Committee were. And therefore, these reports have been made available to both these govts., and bearing the findings in mind they will be discussing and if necessary, the Central Government also will be coming and assisting.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gogoi.

श्री राज बहादुर : जीवन्, मैं बट्या लका
दर बका हूँ और बंदी बाँध की हूँ। बन्धक लका
मन्धक की की नर हूँ। मैं बाइला हूँ बाय बन्धक
दुख बियाय करवाय ।

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Mr. Gogoi.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: In view of the two statements made by the Chief Ministers of Assam and Nagaland that they were apprehending such a severe situation and they had cautioned the Centre also, why the Centre did not take any steps and why the State Governments of Assam and Nagaland did not take any steps in preventing such a holocaust resulting in the killings of the hundreds of people including children and women also?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The fact is that these two Chief Ministers received information a day before and steps were taken to see that armed police force was set up in these areas. Unfortunately, I say this with some great regret that at one place the post was there and within its sight the attackers destroyed the village and even killed certain persons. Nevertheless, the armed police force did not take any action at all. It is unfortunate, and these incidents can happen. But such precautionary steps as could be taken were taken. Nevertheless these incidents took place.

SHRI PURNANARAYAN SINHA: Mr. speaker, in the first instance, I will ask the Minister to correct the answer given by him as 52 people died, 489 houses burnt and 2000 people displaced. But in view of the reports we have received from various sources that sophisticated weapons were used for the purpose of committing the raid on sleeping villagers by the organised Naga gangs and advisory boards were formed and action committees and assault forces were organised, and the whole attack was a pre-planned one with the involvement of political elements, and also in view of the fact that the Assam Chief Minister has reported to the Home Ministry at the Centre on the 23rd December that such a show-down was going to take place and in view of the fact that our Minister of State, Mr. Dhanik Lal Mandal was in the North-East from about 9th

of January and he had not visited borders though he was at Itanagar and instead he went on pilgrimage to Parasuram Kund... (Interruptions). Yes, this is a fact.

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to the question.

SHRI PURNANARAYAN SINHA: I am coming to the question. In view of all these questions I would like to know whether the Government is prepared to hold an inquiry by three Judges of High Court into all the incidents of involvement of foreign elements and also Naga political parties, Naga insurgents and all others and lapses on the part of the Union Government to take precautionary measures. During these incidents so many lives have been lost. It is an unbecoming part of the inter-State relations. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Government is ready to hold an inquiry by a panel of three Judges to examine all the aspects of the question and involvement of internal and external forces in the attack and lay a report on the Table of the House so that we can debate.

SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL: Sir, I do not know why the hon. Member has taken exception to my visit to Arunachal Pradesh.

SHRI PURNANARAYAN SINHA: From 11th....

(Interruptions)

SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL: He is angry that I visited Arunachal Pradesh which is the Union Territory of which I hold the charge. It was decided long back that I should visit Arunachal Pradesh—Itanagar and also Parasuram Kund.

MR. SPEAKER: The question hour is over.