

इस से इहात के लड़कों और लड़कियों को इस न बड़ी मुश्किल होगी इस का भी क्या सरकार ने कोई खयाल रक्खा है ?

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन् माननीय सदस्य का प्रश्न ठीक से मेरा समझ में नहीं आया ! लेकिन मैं उन्हें बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि संसूत को अनिवाय बनाने का अभी तक कम से कम केन्द्रीय सरकार का कोई विचार नहीं है; अलबत्ता अनिवाय न बना कर उस के लिए क्या सुविधाएं दी जा सकती हैं इस पर अवश्य विचार किया जा रहा है ।

Foreign Missionaries in Assam

*818. SHRI SHARDA NAND:
SHRI RAM SINGH
AYARWAL;
SHRI ONKAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign missionaries in Assam and the number out of them working in the strategic Khasi, Jaintia and Garo Hill Districts;

(b) how many of them are working in the sensitive belt between the North Bank of the Brahmaputra and the Foot hills of Bhutan and NEFA and

(c) the names of five foreign missionaries whose parties have not been renewed and the details of the complaints against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

THE NUMBER OF FOREIGN MISSIONARIES WORKING IN ASSAM, KHASI JAINTIA AND GARO HILL DISTRICTS AND THE BELT BETWEEN THE NORTH BANK OF BRAHMAPUTRA AND THE FOOT-HILLS OF BHUTAN AND NEFA.

Assam	238
Khasi and Jaintia Hill Districts	112
Garo Hill Districts	4
Belt between the north bank of the Brahmaputra and the foot hills of Bhutan and Nefa	39

(c) Presumably the reference is to (1) Sister Rosario Lopez Herrera, (2) Sister Elena Albizuri, (3) Father Gaetano Guidotto, (4) Mr. Joseph Dieste, and (5) Mr. Martin George James. There is no adverse information against them and their permits have been renewed.

श्री शारदानन्द : अध्यक्ष महोदय नेफा के अन्दर इन फौरन मिशनरीज के जाने की अनुमति नहीं है इसलिये नेफा की सीमा के ऊपर इन्होंने अपने मिशन कायम कर रखे हैं और वहां पर यह विदेशी धर्मप्राचारक काम कर रहे हैं क्या मंत्री महोदय इस बात की जांच करादेगे कि नेफा के बच्चों को लाकर और उन मिशनो में उन को रखकर वहां पर उनका धर्म परिवर्तन किया जाता है और उसके बाद उनको नेफा के अन्दर भेजा जाता है और यदि ऐसी बात हो तो क्या उसकी जांच करके उसको बन्द कराने की मंत्री महोदय क्या करेगे ?

श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल : इस बारे में हम ने जांच पड़ताल की थी । ऐसी कुछ शिकायतें हमारे पास थीं और बहुत से और कारण होते हुए हम ने इस बात को तय किया कि ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी का उत्तरी भाग जो कि नेफा में मिला हुआ है वहां से भी इन विदेशी मिशनरीज को कहे कि वह उस स्थान को छोड़कर चले जायें । उसके बारे में उचित कार्यवाही की जा रही है ।

श्री शारदानन्द : अभी आधेने कुछ लोगों के नाम गिनाये । उनके खिलाफ कुछ पहले चार्जज लगाये थे । मैं जानता चाहता हूँ कि उनके परमिट का नवीकरण करने से पहले क्या उन चार्जज के बारे में

पूरी पूरी जांच पड़ताल कर ली गई थी और यह कि जो उनके ऊपर चाजेज लगाये थे उनमें कौन कौन चाजेज थे और उनकी किस के द्वारा जांच कराई गई ?

श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल : उस के बारे में जो समय समय पर हमारे पास रिपोर्ट्स आनी रहनी है उनके आधार पर हमने उनकी जांच पड़ताल की थी। चूँकि उनके ऊपर किसी तरह का ऐसा आरोप सिद्ध नहीं हुआ जिस के कारण यह कार्यवाही की जानी लिहाजा कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की गई।

SHRI HEM BARUA: May I know whether it is a fact that two IAS officers working in the Government of Assam have resigned and joined the Pioneer Mission of America operating its unit in eastern India with the record of service not at all satisfactory to this country and, if so, it is also a fact that the Chief Minister of Assam has disclosed it on the floor of the Assembly and has brought this matter to the notice of the Union Government is holding an inquiry into it.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: If the hon. Member gives a separate notice, I shall furnish the information.

SHRI HEM BARUA: This was categorically stated by the Chief Minister of Assam on the floor of the Assembly about the conduct of these IAS officers who have resigned from the Government service and have joined the Pioneer Mission of America operating its unit in eastern India. He has brought the matter to the notice of the Union Government. The Union Government is holding an inquiry into it. I wanted to know how far it is a fact that the Union Government is holding an inquiry into it.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: This is a matter in which I have to make a study. This is not connected with this Question. If he gives a separate notice, I will furnish all the information.

SHRI R. BARUA: So far as we know, the Christian missionaries are not connected with the Chinese or Mao's theory or the foreigners who are adversely posed against India. Is the Government aware of the fact that this constant witch-hunting is having an adverse effect on the Christian population?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: We have taken note of these things. I will state here that by and large the Christian missionaries who are functioning in India, confine themselves to their regular work. Here and there we have received complaints. In some cases we have found that the complaints were true. When we find that the complaints are genuine, then we take action. As I said there are thousands of foreign missionaries functioning here. We have not disturbed them in the due discharge of their functions.

SHRI SWELL: I am glad to hear the Minister of State making a correct and objective statement of fact that most of the Christian missionaries working in this country confine themselves to their own work and do not dabble in politics.

Now, the first part of the question relates to the area from which I come i.e. Khasi and Jaintia Hills and the Garo Hills. The Home Minister has gone on record a number of times in this House and outside that the people of these areas in their political struggle have displayed patriotism, nationalist spirit and statesmanship of the highest order. Now, we know that the people of these areas have received their education mostly at the hands of the Christian missionaries. I would like to know from the Home Minister here to what does he attribute this patriotism, nationalism and statesmanship of the people of the Khasi and Jaintia Hills and Garo hills. Does he attribute it to the education they have received from the missionaries or to something else?

Then, it is a matter of history that for 5 years from 1830 to 1835 a few

thousands of Khasis fought the first war of independence against the inroads of the British. Now, I would like to know whether it is not a fact that in the last 130 years the education the people of these areas have received from the Christian missionaries has had an effeminating effect on them thereby made them more prone to external authority.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA:

I have already said—and by and large I agree with what the hon. Member has said—I said that unless we have something specific against somebody, whether he is a foreign missionary or a foreigner operating in India or any Indian, we do not take any action. As I said, by and large they have been doing their work for which they have come here.

SHRI SWELL: My question was very specific Sir, I crave your indulgence. To what does the Minister attribute the patriotism, the nationalist spirit and the high statesmanship of the people of these areas because I want this kind of witch-hunting against the missionaries should stop here and for ever. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA:

I have said that by and large I agree with what he has said.

SHRI KARTIK ORAON: Now that India is free and we are thinking in terms of Indianising everything, I am rather distressed to find that even now throughout the length and breadth of this country, foreign missionaries are working for the last 150 years. Perhaps not less than Rs. 200 crores or more have been spent for the tribal population who have been converted into Christianity whose population is only 16 lakhs. Now, the community has been very much developed and developed to the extent that they can stand on par with other advanced

communities. There is a misconception about the policy followed by the Government of India with regard to the welfare of the tribal population. I want to say certain facts which have not seen the light of the day so far. I would like to say that even 60 per cent of the overseas scholarships have gone to the Christians whose population is only 5.53 per cent of the total tribal population.

MR. SPEAKER: The question hour is over.

SHRI KARTIK ORAON: I would like to know from the Government as to what is the brilliant method by which they propose to fill up the gap in the tribes who form 95 per cent of the total tribal population and are outside the pale of Christianity.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA:

This is a fact that we want to Indianise all the missions that are operating here and this is the policy that we have been consistently following. Our policy is that if the work can be done by an Indian we do not allow a foreigner to come in. This policy we are determined to follow in future and we want to follow this policy strictly.

MR. SPEAKER: Question Hour is over.

SHRI LOBO PRABHU: Any slur or suspicion of the leaders of a religion is reflected on the community. I would like to know whether such slur should be caused without an opportunity to the party for self-defence (*Interruption*)

MR. SPEAKER: I could have given you a chance; but I am sorry, the Question Hour is over.

SHRI LOBO PRABHU: Therefore I would like to know from the Minister...

MR. SPEAKER: How can he reply after I have declared that Question Hour is over?

SHRI SONAVANE: The Question Hour is over. Why should he insist like this?

MR. SPEAKER: I am very sorry. The Question Hour is over. We now pass on the Short Notice Question.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

खगसराय तथा बेगुराय में बाढ़

SNQ. 12. श्री कामेश्वर सिंह : क्या सिंचाई तथा विद्युत मंत्री यह बातने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान खगरिया कस्बे में बाढ़ की स्थिति तथा गंगा और कोसी नदियों की बाढ़ से खगरिया और बेगूसराय सब-डिविजनों में हुई तबाही की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ; और

(ग) बाढ़ग्रस्त क्षेत्रों में बाढ़ नियंत्रण के लिये कुल कितनी धनराशि मंजूर की गई है ?

सिंचाई तथा विद्युत मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद) :

(क) से (ग) : विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जाता है ।

विवरण

(क) से (ग) बिहार की सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि मुंगेर जिले के खगरिया और बेगूसराय उपमंडल गंगा की उच्च बाढ़ों से ग्रस्त हो गये हैं । इन दोनों उप-मंडलों में लगभग 4 लाख की जनसंख्या वाले 450 गावों में 1,29,500 हेक्टेयर क्षेत्र बाढ़ों से प्रभावित हुआ जिस में लगभग

8000 हेक्टेयर फसली क्षेत्र भी शामिल है । मुंगेर जिले के 411 मकानों को भी क्षति पहुंची है ।

खगरिया शहर को जो एक तटबंध द्वारा रक्षित है, कोई क्षति नहीं पहुंची है । तटबंध अक्षत है यद्यपि दरारों से, जिन्हें अब रेत के बोरों से बन्द कर दिया गया है, पानी का कुछ प्रभाव हुआ था । गंगा नदी का स्तर 25 अगस्त 1948 के उच्चतम बाढ़ स्तर अर्थात् 37.856 मीटर से 0.32 मीटर ऊंचा था । पानी का स्तर 27 अगस्त को 15 सेंटीमीटर नीचे उतर गया था । स्थिति पर निगरानी रखी जा रही है और सभी सुरक्षात्मक उपाय किये जा रहे हैं ।

बाढ़ का उमड़ा पानी मुंगेर की कुछ निम्नवर्ती बस्तियों में घुसा जो कि बाढ़ों में एक सामान्य सी बात है । बहरहाल, 25 अगस्त से पानी का उतरना आरम्भ हो गया है । समाचार पत्रों में इस बात की गलत रिपोर्ट की गई थी कि मुंगेर के बिजली घर में बाढ़ का पानी आ गया था । बिजली घर नहीं चल रहा था क्यों कि मुंगेर को बिजली की सप्लाई ग्रिड से मिल रही है । तटबंधों पर राज्य सरकार द्वारा लगातार निगरानी रखी जा रही है । साहिबपुर कमाल के निकट राष्ट्रपथ के ऊपर से पानी गुजर जाने के कारण यातायात में गड़बड़ी आ गई थी और राज्य सरकार ने भी सभी सम्भव सुरक्षात्मक उपाय किये हैं । सड़क तटबंध के साथ साथ इस समय पानी का कोई अनुभाव्य प्रवाह नहीं है और सड़क पर हल्की गाड़ियों के आने जाने की इज्जाजत दे दी गई है । यदि गंगा के पानी में उतार जारी रहा तो उम्मीद की जानी है कि एक या दो दिनों में सड़क खुल जायेगी । क्योंकि उपरी पहुंचों में गंगा की बाढ़ों में उतार आ रहा है इसलिये यह उम्मीद है कि खगरिया और बेगूसराय भी जोकि नदी की निम्नतर पहुंचों में स्थित हैं बाढ़ों से उत्पन्न तनाबों से भी श्रद्धा ही छुटकारा पा लेंगे ।