

area. We must not forget that. But instead of trying to meet their demand, you have thrown 200 satyagrahis into prison by now. It has been reported that Pakistan has started a camp in guerilla warfare training in Chhitagong Hills area for the rebel elements of Manipur. May I know if the Government proposes to drive the people of Manipur into the arms of Pakistan since Manipur is a strategic area or to solve the problem according to their demands?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I can understand the way of argument but these matters cannot be decided like that. These matters will have to be very carefully considered. Financial aspect, administrative facilities and other considerations also will have to be taken into account. I do not say that the considerations you are mentioning are not relevant. . . (Interruption)

SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI: May I know whether Government is thinking in broad terms of conferring statehood of the bigger units or of merging small units with the neighbouring States in the near future? Also, will Government give more power to the Union territory, as has been given to Meghalaya which was inaugurated yesterday? The Council of Meghalaya and their Cabinet will enjoy more power than the Union territories. What is Government's thinking on this question?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: At the present moment there is no proposal of merging any Union territory with a State. That is clear. As far as other Union territories are concerned, I have explained Government's position, Meghalaya is a class by itself. I do not think it can be copied anywhere else.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: What about Andamans?

श्री राम गोपाल शालबाले : नागालैंड भारत सरकार के विरुद्ध विद्रोह करता है और वहाँ की आमदनी भी कम है। ऐसी स्थिति में आप ने नागालैंड को पूरे अधिकार दे दिये, जब कि दिल्ली वाले आप का साथ देते हैं। दिल्ली की मेट्रोपोलिटन कौंसिल मांग कर रही है कि उस

को पूर्ण असेम्बली के अधिकार दिये जायें। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस में सरकार को क्या आपत्ति है?

श्री यशवन्तराव चव्हाण : जो आपत्ति है वह मेरे मूल जवाब में लिखी हुई है।

SHRI BAL RAJ MODHOK: Delhi is economically viable; so, the economic viability criterion does not work against Delhi.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: As I said in my statement, Delhi has been made a Union territory because of its special position as the capital of the country. This consideration will continue to hold good. This is the reason.

Discrimination against Buddhists in Ladakh

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*782. SHRI J AN E S H W A R
MISRA :

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over 50,000 Buddhists living in the poverty-stricken belt of Ladakh are crying against the communal discrimination by the Kashmir Government;

(b) whether their demand for justice and equality in social and economic fields will be considered by the Central Government; and

(c) if so, what are their demands and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): (a) to (c). The Jammu and Kashmir Government have informed us that no discrimination either on communal considerations or in social and economic fields is made against the Buddhists of Ladakh. All the three tehsils of Ladakh district, namely, Leh, Kargil and Zaskar, are given adequate attention in the matters of development and employment opportunities.

श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र : लद्दाख का इलाका अपने देश की बहुत ही मुलायम सरहद्द का हिस्सा है जहाँ पर देशी और परदेशी तनाव रहता है, और जब वहाँ कोई राज्य सरकार या अपने देश

की सरकार किसी खास वर्गों के साथ अन्याय करे, खास तौर से उन के साथ जो शरणार्थी हैं, तो यह बहुत ही शर्मनाक बात है। लद्दाख में ज्यादातर वे बौद्ध भिक्षु हैं जो तिब्बत से आये हुए हैं। शरणार्थी वह होते हैं जो दूसरी जगह से चल कर सताये हुए आते हैं। यह भी सताये हुए आये हैं। लेकिन उस के साथ उन का यह भी मकसद है कि वह अपना एक ऐसा संगठन बनाये जो तिब्बत को कभी आजाद करा सके। क्या गृह मंत्री बौद्ध भिक्षुओं की अपनी सरकार की ओर से आश्वासन देंगे कि जब कभी वे तिब्बत को आजाद कराने की कोशिश करेंगे तो उस में हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार और काश्मीर की सरकार उनकी मदद करेगी ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I think, the other question is a different question. We cannot undertake such a thing. This is a question of the development of Ladakh and the creation of employment opportunities for the Buddhists there. They have certain problems which have been considered from time to time. Last year, there was some agitation about their demands. A Minister from Jammu and Kashmir went there. They had certain discussions. Only yesterday, the representative of Ladakh, Shri Kushok Bakula made some statements here that in the last year some development has taken place. Still there are some questions which have not yet been attended to. But the development process for making further progress is in motion.

श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र : इन्होंने कल लद्दाख के किसी प्रतिनिधि की चर्चा की है। अखबारों में छपा है आज से तीन चार दिन पहले कि लद्दाखी भिक्षुओं की समस्यायें इतनी बिगड़ गई हैं कि अगर उनको हल नहीं किया गया तो विस्फोटक स्थिति वहां पैदा हो जाएगी। जो प्रतिनिधि मंडल चव्हाण साहब से मिलने आया था और हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार से मिलने आया था उसने कहा था कि हिन्दुस्तान सरकार ने लद्दाख के बौद्धों को परिगणित जाति घोषित करने का आश्वासन दिया था लेकिन उसको अभी तक पूरा नहीं

किया गया है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस दिशा में हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार क्या कर रही है?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I also made some reference to certain demands. Only yesterday, we had a full-fledged discussion about it. The demand of the delegation was about treating the people in Ladakh as Scheduled Tribes. That demand could not be conceded because a Scheduled Tribe has certain special features which have been accepted in the Constitution. We cannot create a new Scheduled Tribe as such. But the demand about treating that area as a backward area and its people as backward people has been conceded by the State Government. The entire population in Ladakh will be treated as backward so that they will get better developmental facilities and they will also get more facilities in the matter of Government employment.

श्री बसराज मधोक : लद्दाख के बौद्धों की तीन मुख्य शिकायतें हैं भेदभाव की। एक यह है कि उनकी भाषा बोधी है जिस की लिपि लगभग देवनागरी है और उस में काफी बड़ा साहित्य भी है। परन्तु जम्मू काश्मीर सरकार उन पर उर्दू लाद रही है। उनको बोधी के अन्दर न शिक्षा दी जाती है और न कोई और सुविधायें दी जाती हैं। क्या सरकार यह स्टेप लेगी कि बोधी को जो वहां की रिजनल लैंग्वेज है, उसको उचित स्थान दिया जाए ?

वहां पर बहुत से तिब्बत से शरणार्थी आए हैं। लेकिन जिस तरह से जम्मू में पंजाब के शरणार्थियों को अभी तक बसने नहीं दिया जा रहा है, उसी तरह से तिब्बत से आए हुए शरणार्थियों को भी वहां बसने नहीं दिया जा रहा है और नही उनको वोटिंग अधिकार दिया जा रहा है। क्या सरकार तिब्बत के शरणार्थियों को वहां बसायेगी और उनको वोटिंग के अधिकार देगी ?

तीसरे उनका कहना यह है कि लद्दाख, लाहोल और स्पीति ये एक ही क्षेत्र हैं, ज्यागर-रिफिकल दृष्टि से, भौगोलिक दृष्टि से, कल्चरल

दृष्टि से, भाषा आदि की दृष्टि से और इस वास्ते इन तीनों को जोड़ कर इनका संघ बनाया जाए ताकि उस क्षेत्र का विकास ठीक ढंग से हो सके। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उनकी इन तीनों मांगों के बारे में सरकार का क्या रवैया है ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: The official language of the State is Urdu. It will continue to be so. But they have certainly made a demand for having certain educational facilities in their language in Ladakh. That is also one point that is before the Government there.

SHRI BAL RAJ MODHOK: But nothing has been done so far about it.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: At the present moment, I have no information about that. But I know that matter is before the Jammu and Kashmir Government.

SHRI BAL RAJ MODHOK : What about the refugees? There are about 5000 refugees who are not being settled there.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: The problem of refugees from Tibet is there and that matter is also being very carefully considered by the State Government.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE: May I know from the hon. Home Minister whether, instead of treating Ladakhi Buddhists as backward class people, as a backward area, would the Government treat Ladakh area as a Scheduled area, not a Scheduled Tribe, under article 244(1), in Fifth Schedule and, at the same time, appoint a Commissioner for the Scheduled Area under article 339?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: There is no such proposal before us. I do not think that is feasible also.

SHRI RANGA: I hope, the hon. Home Minister is conscious of the special significance of this particular area and that all sections in this House are specially concerned about the welfare of the people and their progress. May I know whether he would try and evince special interest in the various points

made by my hon. friend, Shri Kushok Bakula, last time as well as this time, and see that apart from treating those people as Scheduled Tribes which somehow does not appeal to me, in regard to all the other demands of theirs the maximum possible and sympathetic consideration is given to their demands and a special Minister is appointed from amongst the Buddhists, especially, of that area and they are given every possible assurance that their problems are being considered not only by the Kashmir Government specially but also by the Union Government not only sympathetically but in a very very energetic manner?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I concede the point that the area as such requires special attention because it is a very strategic area from the point of security of the country. As far as the people of that area are concerned, naturally, they require special attention in different matters. Their economic development, their employment facilities and other considerations have to be given priority. I have no doubt about it. I concede that there is a special responsibility on the Central Government also in this matter. Therefore, as I mentioned, in order to facilitate their economic development and also to provide facilities for employment, this area is being treated as a backward area so that these people will get special facilities and certain priorities. That is being done. The only limited question that was raised was about treating it as a scheduled area and the people as Scheduled Tribes. Sir, the tribal character is something different. Once you introduce these things, possibly it will be an unending story in the whole of the country. As far as the point of giving special attention and priority for the development of the area and the people and the territory as such, because it is a strategic area is concerned, this point has been very carefully considered by Government and has been accepted in principle.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: But nothing has been done so far.

श्री प्रकाशबीर शास्त्री : आप से पहले जब श्री संजीव रेड्डी अध्यक्ष पद पर थे उस समय जब लद्दाख के राष्ट्रीय और अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय महत्व को ध्यान में रखते हुए लद्दाख के सम्बन्ध में

कुछ कठिनाइयां सदन के सामने आई थी तो सर्व सम्मति से यहां यह निश्चय हुआ था कि एक शिष्ट मंडल लद्दाख की समस्या का अध्ययन करने के लिए जाए। लेकिन जम्मू काश्मीर सरकार के विरोध के कारण वह शिष्ट मंडल वहां पर नहीं जा सका। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने राज्य सरकार के अतिरिक्त अपने स्तर पर भी जानकारी ली है कि लद्दाखी लोगों ने उस समय जो अपनी कठिनाइयां बताई थीं वे अब नहीं हैं विशेष रूप से धर्मान्तरण आदि के सम्बन्ध में ?

दूसरी बात यह है कि गजेन्द्रगडकर कमिशन ने जो लद्दाख के संबंध में जो अपने सुझाव दिए थे वे सुझाव जल्दी से जल्दी वहां पर लागू हो सकें, इस सम्बन्ध में भी क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने राज्य सरकार को कुछ निर्देश दिये हैं ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: As far as the discussion last time was concerned, when the question of sending some sort of a parliamentary delegation came up, that was gone into and I advised that we should not insist on such a delegation because, naturally, the State Government raised an objection to it. At the same time, I had promised to see if visits of some Members of Parliament can be arranged. We extended certain invitations to some Members of Parliament. Though many agreed initially, ultimately only one member agreed to go. Therefore, it was given up.

As far as the Gajendragadkar Commission's recommendations are concerned, this matter was discussed only yesterday in this House and I gave certain information about it. Certain demands are being considered. As far as the representation of that area in the Cabinet is concerned, a State Minister has been appointed. But their demand is for a Cabinet Minister.

श्री प्रकाशबीर शास्त्री : लद्दाख एफेयर नहीं दिया।

श्री यशवन्तराव षण्हाण : यह सही है। उनकी वह भी डिमांड है।

In these matters we cannot impose any decision from here. It is certainly the privilege of the Chief Minister to decide as to which portfolios should be with whom.

SHRI BAL RAJ MODHOK: You can persuade him.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: It is a different matter. I cannot impose any decision on this matter.

श्री रणधीर सिंह : लद्दाख फ़ौजी लिहाज से एक फ़ार्वर्ड एरिया होते हुए भी एक निहायत बैंकवर्ड एरिया है। नेशनल पायंट आफ़ व्यू से, सरहद होने के नाते और मोस्ट बैंकवर्ड, स्पेशली बैंकवर्ड होने की वजह से लद्दाख की एक खास पोजीशन है। जिस तरह आसाम और नीफ़्रा में शिड्यूल एरियाज हैं, क्या उसी तरह लद्दाख को भी शिड्यूल ट्राइबल मानने के बजाये शिड्यूल एरिया डिक्लेयर करने के बारे में सरकार हमदर्दानी तौर पर ग़ौर करेगी, जैसा कि अभी श्री भंडारे ने कहा है ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I have answered this question in great detail already. I do not think I need repeat it once again.

श्री महाराज सिंह भारती : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं अपने पैसे से और अपनी तरफ़ से उस वक्त लद्दाख हो कर आया हूँ, जब कि वहां पर आन्दोलन चल रहा था। मैं गृह मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि काश्मीर सरकार और लद्दाख के लोगों में जो समझौता हुआ था, उस की कितनी बातें कार्यान्वित की गई हैं और कितनी नहीं ? क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्र की ओर से लद्दाख के लिए जो रुपया दिया जाता है, उस का एक बड़ा हिस्सा काश्मीर के अधिकारियों के आने-जाने पर खर्च किया जाता है ? क्या यह भी सच है कि लद्दाख के लोग चाहते हैं कि वह सारा रुपया उन को दिया जाये, ताकि वह लद्दाख के डेवेलपमेंट के काम में आये ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: It is not correct that all the money is spent on travelling etc. certain things which were agreed to between the leaders there and the State Government and some of them have been implemented. Only yesterday Mr. Bakula said that some of their demands have been met by the State Government. In the last 2 months there is definitely some progress.

श्री राजजी राम : बौद्धों का मामला सिर्फ लद्दाख से नहीं, बल्कि सारे भारत से सम्बन्ध रखता है। वह बड़ा गम्भीर मामला है बाबा साहब डा० अम्बेदकर की मृत्यु के बाद तो उस की गम्भीरता बहुत बढ़ गई है। क्या मंत्री महोदय सरकार की इस दोमुखी बोली और दुर्गंगी चाल का स्पष्टीकरण करेंगे कि महाराष्ट्र में तो बौद्धों को पोलिटिकल रिजर्वेशन के अलावा सारी सुविधायें प्रदान की गई हैं, लेकिन पूरे भारत में उनको वे सुविधायें प्रदान नहीं की गई हैं? क्या वह इस का कारण बतायेंगे ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: As regards neo Buddhists, the Government of India has accepted certain position so far as educational facilities are concerned. That is being done; and the same thing was done in Maharashtra, if I remember correctly, 10 years before; I don't know what is the position at the present moment.

SHRI M. L. SONDHI: I have been listening to the replies of the Home Minister with careful attention. I have a feeling that he is sitting on the top of a Government volcano which may erupt at any time. Therefore we seek your protection here because we have to be vigilant about that part of the country which is far away on our borders. We cannot afford to be complacent about it. Sir, the problem of Ladakh is a problem of modernisation of a traditional society. Are the people in Srinagar so far removed from modern attitude and feeling as to perpetrate the Ladakh area people to suffer forcible religious conversion and other crude methods of coercion which smack of a medieval era? Do the rulers in Srinagar understand the problem of modernising traditional society with all the finesse and nuances which modern sociological theory teaches us?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I am not sure about that. As far as I know there are some people in Kashmir Government also who know the technique and who believe in modernisation of conventional society. I am afraid there are some others in Delhi who do not believe in this.

SHRI M. L. SONDHI: Has an expert study been made?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: It is not a question of believing in that. Modernization of a conventional society is a real problem not only of Ladakh but for the whole of India also. And it is going to take a long time. We have to go gradually. I have no doubt it will have to be done in all tehsils of Ladakh.

SHRI S. KANDAPPAN: Sir, Ladakh has a much larger area in size than Jammu and Kashmir put together. As far as I could understand him, only yesterday the representative from Ladakh made a plea that the infra-structure, particularly, the communication, is a very important aspect for development of areas in the hilly region. Unless we develop the communications in the hilly tracts it would be difficult for us to expect any development whatsoever. I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Home Affairs whether he feels convinced that it would be possible with the resources available with J. & K. Government that they can go ahead with laying of communications or has the Centre any proposal to do something with regard to that?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: As far as communications in Jammu and Kashmir, particularly Ladakh, are concerned, the major portions of communications works have been taken over by the Central Government and its organization called the Border Roads Development. The Border Road Development has done immense work in developing the major communications. The road that is developed from Srinagar to Leh is an achievement and it is a class by itself.

SHRI S. KANDAPPAN: What about communications in Ladakh region?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I am coming to that. About Ladakh itself, only yesterday an hon. Member from Ladakh, Shri Khushok Bakula, was pleading for

the development of Ladakh. Development of communication in Ladakh is being undertaken and it will take some time. Agency for doing this work and other facilities are necessary.

SHRI VEERABHADRA SINGH: One of the representatives, Shri Kushok Bakula pleaded for creation of a Union Territory for Ladakh. What is the reaction of the Government of India to this effect?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: It was a wrong demand.

Gherao of Vice-Chancellor of Delhi University

*783. **SHRI HEM BARUA:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION & YOUTH SERVICES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Vice-Chancellor of the Delhi University was gheraoed recently by some sixty students in his office; and

(b) if so, the reasons of this gherao, and the demands made by the students?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION & YOUTH SERVICES (DR. V. K. R. V. RAO): (a) About 20-30 students gheraoed the Vice-Chancellor on February 12, 1970 when he was in a meeting of the Academic Council.

(b) The students wanted immediate action to be taken against the President of the Delhi University Students Union, who it was alleged was guilty of violation of the constitution of the Union, unauthorised withdrawal and use of funds of the Union, improper use of the Union building, failure to maintain proper accounts, etc.

SHRI HEM BARUA: Is it not a fact that a section of students gheraoed the Vice-Chancellor of Delhi University because of his indifferent attitude towards certain students against whom there were serious allegations of financial irregularities made by some students? If so, what steps has the Vice-Chancellor taken to enquire into that particular aspect of the case?

DR. V. K. R. V. RAO: The answer to the first part of the question of the hon. Member is 'No'. Actually on the 22nd January, certain allegations were made in writing to the Vice-Chancellor

by the Secretary and the Joint Secretary and some other members of the Union saying that there were financial irregularities or other irregularities and so on. The Secretary and Joint Secretary later withdrew the allegations. Subsequently, however, their Joint Secretary re-affirmed this charge. The Vice-Chancellor called a meeting of all the students on the 31st January and appointed a fact-finding Committee to go into the whole question and to submit a report. The report of the fact-finding Committee was received on the 11th February. The Vice-Chancellor made available the copies of that report to both the President of the Union as well as to those who had made allegations against the representatives of the Union. The Fact-finding Committee's Report did not say anything about the financial irregularities because the accounts had not been produced by the President of the Union. The Vice-Chancellor asked the President of the Union to submit the accounts by the 14th of February. Intimation was sent to both the parties. All these happened on 11th and 12th. Then, on 12th at about 6-30 P.M. a group of students made allegations against the President of the Union and gheraoed the Academic Council as also the Vice-Chancellor and said that he must take immediate action against the President. The Vice-Chancellor had asked the President to submit the accounts by the 14th. He had received the report only on the 11th. And I think it was rather unreasonable to ask the Vice-Chancellor to take immediate action without giving an opportunity to the persons concerned to explain their position.

SHRI HEM BARUA: Acts of indiscipline are mounting in Delhi University today. You find Mao's slogans on the walls; particularly one "Reading makes a man dull" finds a ready response. There are other slogans like 'Down with English'. This must be the work of Hindi zealots raising their slogans in English. There are slogans written on the walls of Indraprastha College where women are told 'You are not women; you are chapati-making machines'.

Day before yesterday, a bomb was hurled at the Faculty of Arts building at Delhi University campus.

These acts of indiscipline are growing in the University due to the partisan attitude of the Vice-Chancellor.