

[English]

### Steps to improve standards of police administration

\*431. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any new measures are being contemplated by the Union Government to improve the standards of police administration in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b). The subject 'public order' and 'police' are included in the State list of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. The State Governments are primarily responsible for improving the standards of police administration in their States.

The Directors General and the Inspectors General of Police would be initiating action on the guidelines given by the Prime Minister at their recent conference at Delhi.

A copy of the press release on the observations made by the Prime Minister at the Conference is given below :

Press Information Bureau

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Call for comprehensive review of role and structure of police Prime Minister's address to Senior Police Officers conference

NEW DELHI, Phalguna 13, 1908  
March 4, 1987.

The Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has said that the conventional idea of the police force being only an instrument of law and order is no longer valid. In today's context, he said, the police force needs to develop as an instrument of development and display greater sensitivity to the issues, with its fingers on the pulse of the people.

Addressing the conference of Directors-General/Inspectors-General of police and

senior officers of the Central police organisations here today, the Prime Minister said that the role, thrust upon the police by the forces released by the developmental processes, needs to be understood and analysed. He suggested a debate on the entire role and structure of the police force.

Deliberations confined to mere issues of tightening up of nuts and bolts, he said, will not provide long-term answers. Even seemingly unconnected ideas would be welcomed by the Government, if they can trigger a new line of thinking on the issues affecting the police personnel and their functioning.

Dwelling on the larger issues of the country's administrative system and the role and position of different services in the hierarchy, Shri Rajiv Gandhi said the Government is interested in initiating a debate on the subject. He said it is necessary to redefine the place of individual service and the boxes in which it operates with a view to inter-relating them. Formulation of new training programmes and career patterns are necessary to encourage specialisation in services. He said that an indepth assessment of the aptitudes and attitudes of personnel at different levels of the police and other services is essential for remoulding them.

Stating that the police and security forces in the country would have to face more complex challenges in the future, Shri Rajiv Gandhi said that the present system of police career management and administration cannot deliver the goods. The hierarchical relationship in the force, based on police constable—officer link in a vertical chain, needs to be reformed. "The efforts of Robert Peel in Britain led to the founding of a modern police force in that country. Thinking on laying the foundations for a future police force in India, sensitive to more complex tasks, must start now", he observed.

Briefly referring to the situation in Punjab, the Prime Minister congratulated the Chief Minister, Sri Surjit Singh Barnala and the people of Punjab who have taken a bold stand to separate religion and politics and said, "we must extend our full support to them".

Commending the leadership of the Punjab State police force under Shri J.F. Rebeiro, Director General of Police, Shri Rajiv Gandhi said that the handling of the Punjab situation has shown what could be achieved through leadership, even when the conditions are very difficult.

Drawing attention to the insufficient presence of women in the police force, Shri Rajiv Gandhi said that nearly half of the population with which the police had to deal, consists of women. He suggested induction of more women into the force.

He urged the officers to pay greater attention to the problems faced by the ordinary policeman at the level of the Thana in discharging his day-to-day duties. The line of communication between the policeman at this level and senior officials must always be kept open and the officials at the lower levels must be encouraged to communicate without inhibitions. Efforts should be directed to provide training even at this level to enhance motivation and morale of the force. "A caring attitude on the part of the Officers towards lower formations would help in building the confidence of the constable and the force", he added.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Sir, quite a few senior police officers of IPS rank have been found guilty of corruption in Bihar and no action has been taken against them as yet. May I know from the Hon. Home Minister if he proposes to do something in that regard and whether he feels these police officers will be sympathetic to the problems of those who are innocent people?

S. BUTA SINGH : Sir, this, as I mentioned, is a State subject. The IPS cadres which are serving under various States...

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What is the State subject? Corruption?

(Interruptions).

S. BUTA SINGH : Sir, we have not made any study on that count Statewise or on national basis, but certainly the cases of corruption are reported and also the State Governments do take actions against those

who are found corrupt. About this particular case I have no information and I think it is the State Government which is primarily responsible, they will definitely take suitable action in case the officers are found indulging in corrupt practices.

(Interruptions).

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Sir, on a previous occasion when I raised this question in this House, Mr. Chidambaram said that he was looking into the matter. The honourable Home Minister says that he does not know about it. There is an apparent contradiction in their statements. (Interruptions).

Another thing is, I just wanted to say that the Hon. Prime Minister has suggested that there should be a debate as regards the role and structure of police in the country. Subject, of course, to your permission, Sir, I want to know from the Hon. Minister : When does he propose to hold a debate in this House and also outside this House?

S. BUTA SINGH : Sir, there is hardly any contradiction; when my colleague, Mr. Chidambaram said that, I was also here. What I said was that primarily it is the duty at the first stage, of the State Government to investigate, to find out as to whether the charges levelled against any particular officer are proved. If they are proved, they are competent to take action. If they forward them to us, we will definitely take deterrent action. We will not spare any officer if he is found guilty of corruption by the State Government or even by the agencies of the Central Government. We will definitely take the maximum action against those who are found indulging in corrupt practices.

Regarding part 2 of the question, as I said, the Hon. Prime Minister has made these observations in the annual conference of the DGs and Inspectors General of Police. This is a routine annual conference of the DGs to exchange experience gained on the ground from various States. This time, the Hon. Prime Minister has given some innovative ideas. They are being discussed by the DGs themselves. They are also being studied by the Ministry of Home Affairs and based on the ideas given by the Hon. Prime Minister, we

will if necessary introduce changes in the system itself.

But, I am sorry, perhaps it will not be possible for having them discussed in this House first because these are purely service matters and they have to be discussed by the specialists and the Ministry, will have to take a view, and then, we can come and inform the House.

**SHRI AMAL DATTA :** About the Prime Minister's guidelines which have been referred to by the Hon. Home Minister—I have just gone through the statement which is laid on the Table of the House—it only calls for a national debate. It says :

"Mr. Rajiv Gandhi says that the Government is interested in initiating a debate on the subject"

There is no guideline. If this is to be taken as a guideline, then, only the police will be debating among themselves as to what to do. I am sure that the Hon. Home Minister has not studied this particular piece which has been laid on the Table of the House, as an answer to the Question tabled. This is a very pathetic state of affairs. Now, my question is, if he has understood some guidelines to come out of this, will he please spell out what exactly these guidelines are?

Secondly, he says, the State Government is to take action against the corrupt IPS officers. Can the State Government do so without your own prior approval?

**AN HON. MEMBER :** They cannot take any action.

**S. BUTA SINGH :** Sir, if the Hon. Member is trying to make a bitter vitriolic remark by ascribing certain things to me personally, I do not mind. But I said, the thought provoking ideas were given by the Hon. Prime Minister to the ...

**SHRI AMAL DATTA :** What are the guidelines?

**S. BUTA SINGH :** No, no. I did not say, "guidelines". He said, "guidelines".

**SHRI AMAL DATTA :** You said, "guidelines" have been given.

**S. BUTA SINGH :** I said, "innovative ideas".

Innovative ideas were given by the Prime Minister. (*Interruptions*).

**MR. SPEAKER :** Please be seated.

**S. BUTA SINGH :** As a matter of fact, these are very unconventional ideas, very fresh ideas. He wants to give a new look to the services.

**SHRI AMAL DATTA :** Oh!

**S. BUTA SINGH :** What is wrong about it?

**SHRI AMAL DATTA :** Please tell the House what is the new idea?

**S. BUTA SINGH :** I am telling the House. I think, you have not read it.

**SHRI AMAL DATTA :** Don't read it out. You say, what is the idea?

**S. BUTA SINGH :** He has given fresh ideas about the attitude of the police service to the masses. He said, there should be rapport with the masses. There should be rapport from the top officers to the constables. These are the ideas which the Hon. Prime Minister gave to the annual conference of the DGs. These have to be studied... (*Interruption:*) Kindly listen to me. These have to be studied in depth because they will be affecting the whole pattern of services in our country. And we would like to change it for the better. The police must be made a useful tool for the services of the people, the masses.

**SHRI AMAL DATTA :** That is what everybody has been saying? What is new in this idea?

**S. BUTA SINGH :** Just going through the statement is one thing and studying it in depth is another. That is what I have said. These will be studied in depth. The police will be involved.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : There are no new ideas.

S. BUTA SINGH : Well, for me they are new ideas. For you, they may not be new ideas.

MR. SPEAKER : No running commendatory please. This is very bad. Please listen to him.

S. BUTA SINGH : These ideas and thoughts will be studied in depth by the Government, by the intelligentsia and by the officers concerned. They will be studied and naturally when we frame some workable policy on this, it can be discussed in this House. But after we have framed a policy out of that, it can be discussed.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Have you answered the question about IPS Officers ? That is part 'B'.

S. BUTA SINGH : Those who are found guilty of indulging in corrupt practices, *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : How can it be done without your consent and approval ? Even initiation of disciplinary action has to be approved by you.

S. BUTA SINGH : As I said in the beginning, in all such cases, wherever such things are reported to us, we will definitely give our sanction and we will follow it up. Not only that We will give punishment to those who are found corrupt.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Tanti, will you kindly take your seat ? I have not allowed you.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I am grateful to the Hon. Minister for asking us, in individual cases, where they do something, to write to him. A worker of mine was arrested by the police *Daroga Raj*, by Darogaji, and for 36 hours; he was carried from pillar to post hand-cuffed. Ultimately the Judge said, there is no charge, nothing of the sort. I wrote to the Bihar Government and yet nothing was done. *(Interruptions)*. I will not speak...

MR. SPEAKER : Order, please; no interruption please.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I can give another example. It is not my intention to embarrass the Government. Everybody wants to know what is the police system. Another case is that a son of my ex-President was killed. I wrote to the Home Minister and Bihar Government. No inquiry was made.

I can go on giving examples. What I say is this. Mr. Home Minister, we want in this country a Home Minister's rule not a *Daroga Raj*. Unfortunately if you do not have the training system for the Police, the political analysts say that after some time, the Police will be the most notorious uniformed gang in this country. *(Interruptions)* Mr. Home Minister, we appreciate and welcome the ideas recently thrown outside the House and in the House, by the Prime Minister, and by you also.

We would like to know what training course you propose or, what system you propose, so that Police, especially the *Darogajee*,—I am not talking of IPS officers or the like—can think that they are the servants, not our masters. If you do not do it, then you must have read today that people will be forced to take the law into their own hands like what happened in Hardwar yesterday, *gherao* the Thana. What do you propose to do to stop this future incoming onslaughts on the democracy and liberty of the people from the Police ?

S. BUTA SINGH : I am grateful to the Hon. Member for raising such an important issue. But, as I said, the very first word of my sentence—I would like all the sections of the House to realise it—was that the police and public order is a State subject. I repeat it. Would the Hon. Members suggest that in all such cases, the Government of India should directly intervene ?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : No. *(Interruptions)*.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : No.

S. BUTA SINGH : The other aspect with which the Hon. Member finished his supplementary is that the only answer is to upgrade

the training of the Police service to such an extent that such things do not occur in the country which depict the Police as a brutal force. That is the only answer and, for that, I have already informed the august House that we have now before us a well-planned scientific schedule for upgrading technical skill of the training. It is not that rude traditional training of Danda and catching people at will and then putting them through the mill and then discharging them after so many things which come in the press. We have really taken note of the better service for mobility of the forces having better vehicles with greater speed, better and efficient wire-less equipment, scientific aid for investigation.

**SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY :** It is not a technical matter that we are asking...

**S. BUTA SINGH :** ...and training equipment, computerisation of crime records providing efficient and modern training to the police personnel with a view to having better quality and trained police force, raising the morale and to improve the welfare of the police personnel by providing them better housing facilities, introducing more welfare measures...*(Interruptions)*.

On the national scale, these are some of the priorities that we have given to the training of the police in the States. *(Interruptions)*. Such cases are happening. We are getting reports through the Press, through the Hon. Members. Wherever at least I get a representation from the Hon. Member, I immediately take it up with the Hon. Chief Minister of the respective State. Most of the cases are investigated. In case where they are not investigated, we follow them up. The only method with us in all such cases, is that we can use some Central Agency but that cannot be done without the consent of the States. Therefore, I would not really like that in every case we should intervene and try to see that this kind of things do not happen. Earlier also, my colleague had addressed a letter to all the Chief Ministers on this kind of reputation being earned by the Police. I will again take up with all the Chief Ministers, on the first opportunity, to see that such things do not occur in the States which give a bad name to the Police force. If the Police is discredited, let me tell you that law and order will be the first casualty in the country.

*(Interruptions)*

### Diversification of jute products

\* 433. **SHRI AMAL DATTA :** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of possible product diversification in jute industry;

(b) the reasons for the industry not having gone for such diversification so far;

(c) whether Government are aware that Bangladesh and Thailand are making very good jute carpets and if so, the efforts being made to acquire and apply that technology in India;

(d) whether jute blankets have also proved successful; and

(e) whether any incentives is contemplated for non-traditional jute items ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) :** (a) The possible product diversification in jute industry include manufacture of jute carpets, decorative fabrics, blended fabrics, jute reinforced rigid packaging for tea and apple packing etc.

(b) The main reason for the jute industry not going in for diversification in a big way is the inadequacy of funds with the industry for purchase of new machinery required for the purpose.

(c) Government is aware that jute carpets are being made in Bangladesh. One or two jute mills in India are also making jute carpets. It is hoped that the recently announced Jute Modernisation Fund and also the Custom duty exemption for import of modern carpet plants may induce more jute mills to go in for manufacture of jute carpets.

(d) Trial production of jute blended blankets has been taken up recently and appears to be promising

(e) Incentives for export of identified non-traditional jute products have already