

RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, the 8th January, 1991/the
18th Pausa, 1912 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,
Mr. Chairman in the chair

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

पूर्वोक्त क्षेत्र में प्रतिबंधित उग्रवादी संगठन

* 161. डा० नगेन साकिया : क्या मंत्रालय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पूर्वोक्त क्षेत्र में कितन-कितन उग्रवादी संगठनों पर प्रतिबंध लगाया गया है ,

(ख) क्या बोडो सुरक्षा बल के किसी उग्रवादी संगठन पर भी प्रतिबंध लगाया गया है , और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा सूचना एवं प्रसारण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री श्री सुबोध कान्त सहाय (क) उत्तर-पूर्व क्षेत्रों में पीपुल्स लिबरेशन आर्मी (पी० एल० आ०) पीपुल्स वोल्यून्टरी पार्टी ऑफ कागनाइपाका (प्रेदेक), यूनाइटेड नेशन फ्रन्ट ऑफ वसम (यू० एन० एल० एफ०), दि नेशनलश वोलिन्टरी काउंसिल ऑफ नगालेड (एन० एम० सी० एन०) को इसके समीप में स्थित और यूनाइटेड लिबरेशन फ्रन्ट ऑफ वसम (उल्फा) को अर्बुध गतिविधिया (नेत्रा क) अधिनियम, 1967 के अंतर्गत अर्बुध संगठन घोषित किया गया है ।

(ख) और (ग) जी नहीं, श्रीमान । आवश्यकता महसूस नहीं की गई ।

DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister is showing a good gesture by

saying that he is ready to talk with the militants of Punjab with a view to arriving at solution within the framework of the Indian Constitution. Sir, such a dialogue would help in identifying the root causes of the problems of this nature. And, Sir, it is very much necessary to remove the grievances and the sense of alienation from the minds of the section of the people, particularly of the youths, and to bring back them to the mainstream of the country. Therefore, Sir, (a) keeping all these points in view and also the sensitive international borders around the North-East region, I want to know whether, instead of banning the militant organisations of the region and thereby alienating some sections of the youths more and more, the Government would make some ways to start a dialogue with the ULFA, NSCN and such other groups of the region to arrive at a solution of such problems within the framework of the Indian Institution. (b) If the Government's stand in this regard is a positive one, by when the Government is expected to lift the ban and start the process ? (c) If the Government's stand is a negative one, and the Government does not think it fit to have a dialogue, what alternative steps will be taken to bring back the youths to the mainstream of the country or does the Government believe that the bullet power and draconian laws are enough to bring normalcy in the region?

श्री सुबोध कान्त सहाय : महापति महोदय, जहाँ तक किसी भी क्षेत्र में और खासकर पूर्वोक्त क्षेत्र में है हाँ पर पूरी तरह से सामान्य स्थिति पैदा की जाए इसके लिए सरकार शुरू में प्रयत्नशील है । उम इलाके में इन तरह के जितने भी संगठन हैं उनको मुख्य धारा में लाने की हमारी कोशिश है । वहाँ पर आर्थिक विकास के तौर पर बहुत सी योजनाएँ चलाई जा रही हैं जिन्हें द्वारा उस इलाके के लोगों को भी मुख्य धारा में लाया जा सके । रहा सवाल इस बात का कि जो तीनो संगठनों को हमने अर्बुध

घोषित किया है, बैन किया है इन लोगों के साथ तात्कालिक कोई भी वार्ता करने की हमारे पास योजना नहीं है। उस वक्त जो लगातार राज्य सरकारें रही हैं वहाँ पर कानून व्यवस्था चलाने में किसी न किसी स्तर पर फ़ेल हुई है जिसके चलते हमें यह स्टैप की आवश्यकता पड़ी।

DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Sir, my second supplementary will be that the Bodo Security Force, the militant wing of the All Bodo Students Union has been resorting to violence since the last two years to pressurise the Government to concede to their demand for a separate State with an area where the non-Bodo speaking population is ten times more than the scattered Bodo speaking population of whom a large number is against separation. In spite of the denial by the Central Government, it was a fact that the ABSU militants were imparted guerilla training by some Central agencies like RAW under the code "Operation Zoom Zoom" during the time of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi to destabilise the AGP Government in the State. Since then they have killed by bullets and bombs more than one thousand people in the State the figure which is ten times more than the figure of people killed by the ULFA. As a humanist, I always decry any killing of a man by a man, whether it is committed by ABSU or by other groups like ULFA.

My question is:

- (a) Why is the Government treating the militants and killers in separate ways?
- (b) Does the Government not think that while ULFA is a threat to the moneyed men and ABSU militants are a threat to the common men and to the very fibre or social cohesion and harmony?
- (c) Whether Government would take some steps to curb the ABSU extremism, to remove their

grievances, and make them understand the reality and bring them back to the mainstream of life in Assam?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR):

I fully agree with the hon. Member that there should be no killing. We are against killing but whether the killing is committed by terrorists should also be taken into consideration. My colleague just now mentioned that we were forced to take these steps because of the activities of these organisations. Unfortunately there seems to be no initiative from the other side to have a talk on these issues. Unless and until the initiative comes from there, or we are hopeful that there will be some response from that quarter, it may not be possible for the Government to approach them. I assure you, Mr. Chairman, and through you the House that we want negotiations and dialogue. We have banned the organisation; we have not banned the individuals from talking to the Government and our efforts will always be for reconciliatory measures. I would request the hon. Member, if he can help us, we shall welcome all assistance from him. But something should be initiated from that side; otherwise the Government cannot be put in a position where we say that we want to negotiate and they just spurn our offer. The Government cannot accept that position.

He mentioned about intelligence agencies functioning at one time or the other. Mr. Chairman, you know, it is very difficult for me to comment upon the activities of the intelligence agencies in this House.

DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: I hope your message will reach the concerned people and they would respond in a positive way.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He wants your help also.

SHRI KHYOMO LOTH: Sir, I welcome the Prime Minister's statement that he is ready to talk to any of the militant organisations. But my specific question is whether it is a fact that before banning NSCN of Nagaland, the Chief Minister of Nagaland was not consulted, and if it is true, whether it tantamounts to a breach of Centre-State relationship.

श्री सुबोध कान्त सहाय : सभापति महोदय, जहाँ तक उनसे संपर्क किए जाने का संबंध था, नागालैंड के मुख्य मंत्री को वहाँ की स्थिति की पूरी जानकारी समय-समय पर दी जाती रही है और उत्फा के साथ क्योंकि दोनों राज्यों की सीमाएँ लगी हुई हैं, इसलिए उत्फा और एन०एस०सी एन दोनों मिलकर असम में जो घटनाएँ कर रहे थे उनको देखते हुए हम लोगों को यह प्रकाशनरी मीजर लेना पड़ा है, लेकिन ऐसा नहीं है कि इसकी जानकारी मुख्य मंत्री को नहीं है।

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Sir, the hon. Minister said that a number of militant organisations have been formed in the North-East region. There are press reports to the effect that they have formed coordination among themselves and, perhaps, have a joint command. I would like to be enlightened whether the Government has any information about the total number of men and women involved in these militant organisations taken together and the source of arms supplies and training. I would also like to know whether any foreign countries are involved.

Just now, the hon Prime Minister has said that he is prepared to have a dialogue with any individual because, he said, only the organisations have been banned but not the individuals. It is a welcome gesture on the part of the Government that it is prepared to talk to the militants. At the same time, since there are a number of militant organisations in the North-Eastern Region and they are causing deprivations not only in Assam, but in

Manipur, Nagaland and other places also, I would like to know whether the Government has prepared any comprehensive action plan to combat the situation ?

श्री सुबोध कान्त सहाय : सभापति महोदय, इस तरह के हर राज्यों में तकरीबन 7 संगठन हैं, जैसे मेघालय में हैं, मणिपुर में हैं, नागालैंड में हैं, असम में हैं, इनके कार्यकलापों को समय-समय पर हम लोग देखते रहते हैं। लेकिन सससीश निस्टस आर्गनाइजेशन तौर पर तीन आर्गनाइजेशन को हम लोगों ने बैन कर दिया है। कुछ और आर्गनाइजेशन का कार्य क्षेत्र मणिपुर में है, कुछ का मणिपुर और नागालैंड बार्डर साइड पर है, कुछ का मेघालय में लेकिन मणिपुर, नागालैंड और असम तीनों इलाकों के जो संगठन हैं काफ़ी उग्र रूप से काम कर रहे हैं जिसके चलते इन्हें बैन किया गया है। मेघालय और अरुणाचल प्रदेश के सीमांत इलाकों में भी गतिविधियाँ चल रही हैं, जैसे एन एस०सी०एन० की चल रही हैं। इस तरह से हम कह सकते हैं कि तीन संगठनों पर बैन लगाने से उन इलाकों में शांति व्यवस्था की कल्पना की जा सकती है।

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, my supplementary arises out of the point raised by Mr. Nagen Saikia in his supplementary. The feeling of neglect and despair..

MR. CHAIRMAN. Your supplementary must arise out of the question. It cannot arise out of his supplementary.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: He made a point. I have to touch on that also ..

The feeling of neglect and despair is the root cause and backwardness is also another cause for the problems in the North-Eastern Region. Sir, the wrong policies adopted by the A.G.P. Government in Assam have brought disintegration of the different communities in Assam.

DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Not quite true.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: There was an allegation made by the then Chief Minister of Assam that RAW was involved in the Bodo agitation in Assam. This was the statement made, with all responsibility, by the then Chief Minister of Assam. I would like to know from the Home Minister whether it is true?

Secondly, the disintegration is to such an extent that every community in Assam today feels very insecure. This is because of the wrong policies adopted by the A.G.P. Government. Therefore, I would like to know whether the present Government in Assam, I mean, the Central Government, is taking any step to bring about unity among the different communities in Assam? If so, what steps are being taken?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to clarify one point. RAW is in no way involved in internal matters. The hon. Member should know that RAW does not participate in internal activities. The only activity they undertake sometimes is, when there is some threat from outside and if it threatens the security or peace and order in the country, they inform the intelligence agencies or the security forces about that. But they do not get themselves involved in this type of activity. The allegation—whosoever has made it—is totally baseless, incorrect and, if I may say so, totally mischievous.

I want to make another point clear. I agree with the hon. Member that because of economic backwardness and a sense of neglect in these areas, there are hard feelings. The Government is taking into consideration all aspects of economic development of the backward regions because the very essence of planning was that we should not allow regional disparities to grow. Pandit

Nehru in 1950, while inaugurating the Planning Commission, said that regional imbalances were going to cause a serious threat to the unity of the country. The Government is conscious of this fact and in the next few months we shall do something to see that this feeling is not accentuated in the regions which happen to be backward for such a long time.

DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: For information, the communal organisations like ULFA came into existence prior to 1985.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: Is he supplementing the answer of the Prime Minister?

DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: It is just for information.

Karnataka-Maharashtra Border Dispute

+162 **SHRI A.G. KULKARNI:** †

SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during Prime Minister's visit to inaugurate the statue of late Shri Y.B. Chavan in the Assembly Complex at Bombay in November, 1990 the Maharashtra Chief Minister had raised the question of finding a solution to the border problem between Karnataka and Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction to this long standing issue which is creating tension in the border areas?

TNE MINISTER OF STATE IN TNE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF

†The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri A.G. Kulkarni.