

RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, the 7th August, 1986|16
 Sravana 1908 (Saka)

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

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Incidence of Crime in Delhi

*301. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:†
 SHRI KALPNATH RAI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a rise in various crimes in Delhi in recent weeks;

(b) if so, whether the reasons for the same have been investigated; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to improve the law and order situation in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The following steps have been taken by Delhi Police to improve the law and order situation:—

(i) The number of Police Control Room Vans has been increased from 44 to 165.

(ii) Motorcycle patrolling has also been streamlined so that there is motorcycle patrolling in co-ordi-

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Kapil Verma.

nation with each Police Control Room Van.

(iii) Action against bad characters and known criminals has been intensified.

(iv) Area of each Police Station has been divided in divisions and beats and responsibility is fixed at beat officers and divisions officers level.

(v) Intensive checking of hotels and guest houses is being conducted.

(vi) Frequent raids are conducted at places of ill repute and hide-outs of criminals.

(vii) Police presence in busy market places and other vulnerable places has been increased.

(viii) Externment proceedings against known criminals are initiated.

(ix) Provisions of National Security Act are utilised against hardened criminals who are a threat to public order.

(x) Regular co-ordination meetings are being held with officials of neighbouring States, CBI and IB to monitor the activities of terrorists and criminals.

(xi) An Operational Cell to deal with terrorists-extremists has been set up in Delhi Police.

(xii) Checking at border check posts has been intensified.

(xiii) Pickets have been posted at strategic points.

(xiv) To enlist co-operation of public, Special Police Officers have been appointed.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: There is a feeling of insecurity in the country. Crime is taking the widest forms.

Terrorism is the latest. We have read in today's papers about a big explosion in the Hansalaya Building on the Barakhamba Road. There is one thing which is special about it, and that is, the target is not a Government of India office but the Kuwaiti and other airlines offices and the Bank of America.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How do you assume that it was a crime. You are putting a question on an assumption. This question relates to crime in Delhi.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: This crime has taken place in Delhi.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How do you say it is a crime? It may be an accident.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: We know it is an explosion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Explosion does not mean a crime. An explosion can take place out of an accident, it can take place out of any other reason.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: I want to know from the Minister whether it is accidental.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing any reference now. I am going to allow a special mention about it. Now you can put questions on crime in Delhi.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Sir, many bank robberies have taken place recently. There is a feeling of insecurity about it, and the latest is the attempt in Geetanjali. Many bank robberies have not been worked out including the one at the All Women's Branch in Karol Bagh. I want to know what steps the Government is taking to stop these bank robberies, what special measures it has taken and how many have been worked out so far.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, it is not correct to say that there has been an increase in the bank dacoities or bank robberies. In fact, com-

pared to five cases of bank robberies in the corresponding period of 1985 there has not been even a single case of bank dacoity or bank robbery in 1986 so far up to 31-7-1986.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Geetanjali only two days ago.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Periodical meetings with the Chief Security Officers of the various banks are held. We have also strengthened the security arrangements on ground. I think these steps are bearing fruit.

As far as robberies are concerned which would include bank robberies, for the period from 1-1-85 to 31-7-85, 159 cases were reported of which 76 were worked out, showing a detection rate of 47.8 per cent. For the period from 1-1-86 to 31-7-86, 123 cases were reported, out of which 80 have been worked out, showing a detection rate of 65.6 per cent.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Sir, I want to know what steps the Government has taken to stop the flow of explosive and dynamites which we find a lot in Delhi these days. What steps have they taken to plug the loopholes?

MR. CHAIRMAN: What steps are you taking to stop the inflow of dynamite and other explosive into Delhi? This is the question.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I do not know how we can say we can stop the inflow of dynamites and explosives. People are carrying bombs and explosive materials. We detect them, and we apprehend them. Apart from the general strengthening of the law-and-order administration, I have listed in the statement the various steps that we are taking to improve the law-and-order situation. It will be difficult to answer specifically that, but let me say that there is an operational cell set up in the Delhi Police to nab terrorists and extremists and the checking at the border check-posts has been intensified.

श्री कल्पनाथ राय : सभापति महोदय, क्या मंत्री जो यह बताने की कोशिश करेंगे कि दिल्ली में अपराधों के बढ़ने का सबसे बड़ा कारण यह है कि जितनी संख्या इस समय दिल्ली की हो गयी है उस हिसाब से पुलिस और पुलिस के थाने कम हैं तो क्या यह भी कारण है कि दिल्ली में अपराध बढ़ रहे हैं ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Delhi Police now has a strength of 37,146 Officers and men and 6,545 of them were added last year. Therefore, it is not correct to say that we are not increasing the strength of the police. There has been a substantial increase in the number of men and officers. Our fleet strength is 1,680 vehicles. We have sanctioned Rs. 87.5 lakhs for the purchase of modern equipment, including wireless sets. The number of police stations have been increased from 66 to 78. Besides, there are also 57 police chowkies. A lot of money and a lot of effort has gone into increasing the strength of the Delhi Police.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: During the past few years one of the crimes that has grown very disturbingly in the capital is drug trafficking. The other day the Minister of State for Finance informed Parliament that in that context India had found a place even in the Guinness Book of World Records. Just a few days before Parliament session commenced, there were reports about a major hashish haul worth Rs. 10 crores. 976 kilograms of hashish were recovered from a farm house in Mehrauli. And in that report it was mentioned that the persons involved Shri Harnam Singh and Shri Virmani had high VIP connections in Delhi. I have just seen the reports. Therefore, I am not mentioning any names. I would like to know whether the Government has pursued this matter vigorously and whether there is even an iota of truth in these Press reports about these drug traffickers being connected with senior important persons. If so, what has been

the achievement of Government in this regard. I would like to know whether these people have been nabbed. What is the position in respect of this particular crime?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I do not have specific information about the crime the hon. Member is referring to, but I had answered a question a few days ago. I wish to say that seizure of narcotics and other drugs during the period between 1-1-1986 and 31-7-1986 is extremely satisfactory and shows the results of the very intensive drive that we have launched against narcotics and other drugs. During this period of seven months we have registered 1,992 cases and large quantities of charas, opium, Ganja, amack poppyheads, matheglin and morphine have been seized. As far as the case is concerned, my present information is only that the case is under investigation. I cannot say anything about the VIP connections. Everybody in Delhi claims to be a VIP.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: He has not denied it.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: He has not denied it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is all right. It is a joke which you must accept.

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: One of the well-known and important factors for the poor performance of police is the weakness of their intelligence wing. I would like to know (a) if it is a fact that Intelligence Wing people with poor record, people who are frustrated and superseded are the only ones who are getting posted; and (b) if that is so, what steps, if any, Government are taking to see that better incentives are provided to attract good people into the intelligence branch?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I do not know why hon. Member assumes that the people with very poor

record are posted. Honourable Member knows that there is a U.T. cadre for the Indian Police Service, Senior Officers for various wings of the police are drawn from the U.T. cadre and a number of meritorious officers are posted at the lower levels also, Sir, I cannot accept the suggestion that people with very poor record are posted. I think there are good officers in Delhi and the results which we have placed before this House from time to time, show that officers are doing their duty. I cannot accept the assessment of the hon. Member.

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र : सभापति महोदय, पत्रों जो ने अपने जवाब में तो कोई फिगर्स दिने हैं तो कोई टाइम अवधि बताई है कि किस समय तक समझते हैं कि काइम की संख्या खटों है या बढ़ नहीं है। मेरे पास जो फिगर्स उपलब्ध हैं उसमें महिलाओं के साथ जो रिपोर्टिंग हुई है वह जहाँ 84 में 592 केसेज हुये थे वहाँ 85 में 625 केसेज हुये। 1986 में 6 मन्थम में 333 केसेज हुये। महिलाओं के साथ जो ईव टॉजिंग होता है उसमें 85 में 600 केसेज हुये थे, 86 में 1518 केसेज हुये। हमको लग रहा है कि यह काइम बढ़ रहा है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि युवा मंत्रों जो महिलाओं के साथ जो काइम होता है उसको काइम को परिभाषा में रखे हुये हैं या नहीं रखे हुये हैं। पहला बात यह जानना चाहता हूँ। दूसरी बात इस सिलिले में यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सच है कि आजकल जो बॉक डकैतियाँ या दूरी डकैतियाँ हो रही हैं उनमें यती मान घरों के लड़के ऐसा काम कर रहे हैं, बड़ों तादाद में उनको पहुँच हमारे बड़े अफसरों तक है और यह एक प्रधान कारण है जिसके चाते ये काइम बढ़ रहे हैं। अतः इन दो बिंदुओं पर मैं क्वेश्चन फिगेशन चाहता हूँ।

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, it is not correct to say that crime is on the rise. I have figures for different heads of crime. I can read out these figures if the hon. Member wants it.

MR CHAIRMAN: He wants only for kidnapping.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: This is really another question which is lower in the list down as Q. No. 306. Sir, regarding kidnapping, in 1983, 471 cases were reported. In 1984, 592 cases were reported. In 1985, 627 cases were reported showing a rising trend. But in the seven months of 1986, 336 cases of kidnapping have been reported.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: This is also a rising trend.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: 88 have been cancelled. I will tell you why they were cancelled, 248 admitted, 20 challaned, 20 cases are pending trial, 212 cases are pending investigation, 16 cases are untraced. Sir, in kidnapping most of the complaints are where a girl elopes with the boy and the allegation is that girl is a minor girl and she has been taken away against her wishes. But on investigation what is usually found is many of these girls are major girls and they have voluntarily gone with the boy. Therefore, for example, in 1983, 262 cases out of 471 were cancelled. In 1984, 361 out of 592 cases were cancelled. In 1985, 323 out of 627 were cancelled. If you look at the figures of reported cases, the trend is rising. But the vast majority of those cases we had to cancel because the girl was found to be a major and was also going away on her volition.

As far as eve teasing is concerned, I admit that there...

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: This is also friendly... (Interruptions)...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: As far as eve teasing is concerned, I admit that there is a rising trend in the number of cases reported. But that is because we have now intensified the drive against eve teasing. In the first seven months of 1986 we have registered 1,518 cases. This is also a function of the intensive drive against eve teasing. We are conscious about it and we are taking action.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Smt. Shanti Tyagi. No, no, I am sorry. One minute please. I am confused. There is a confusion.

श्रीमती शान्ती पहाड़िया : श्रीमान्, मैं यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि दिल्ली के अन्दर जो अपराध की वारदातें हुई हैं उससे बहुत से लोग घबरा रहे हैं, क्योंकि अब इन अपराधियों की हिम्मत राजधानी दिल्ली तक भी बढ़ गयी है, तो सरकार इसको सोरियसली लेकर इसके लिये क्या कर रही है ? अब जैसे पंजाब है, राजस्थान है या आसाम है इनमें तो ऐसे अपराध हो ही रहे हैं, अगर ये राजधानी में होंगे तो बाकी कहीं बचेंगे, इसके लिये सरकार क्या कर रही है ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, at the moment, I am dealing with crime in Delhi. The figures that I have given show the great concern of the Government and the results we have achieved in specific areas of crime control. I think, the results are quite satisfactory. (Interruptions).

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: People are panicky. It is not so. You might be having some other impression. (Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, I will give an opportunity to Mr. Shanti Tyagi because I made a mistake.

श्री शान्ती त्यागी : श्रीमान्, मेरा अनुभव यह है कि आजकल दिल्ली पुलिस की छावनों मालूम पड़ती है, चप्पे-चप्पे पर पुलिस के जवान खड़े हुए हैं। लेकिन सर, राजधानी में हुला, बँक डकैती, बम विस्फोट, प्राइवेट मकानों में लूट-पाट, सड़क पर चलती महिलाओं के जेवर छीनना और ईवटॉजिंग को घटनायें रोज बढ़ रही हैं तो ऐसी स्थिति में मैं एक छोटा सा प्रश्न करता हूँ, श्रीमान् जिन इलाकों में पुलिस अधिकारी काइम्ज को रोकने में नाकामयाब रहे हैं और वहाँ अपराध बढ़ रहे हैं, पुलिस अधिकारी अपराधियों का पता लगाने में नाकामयाब रहे हैं, ऐसे अधिकारियों के खिलाफ किसी तरह की कोई विभागीय कार्यवाही आपने की है या नहीं ? या कि आप उनको प्रो-मोशन देंगे ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is asking that instead of punishing the criminals whether you will punish the officials.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the Government shares the concern of the hon. Member about crime control. Sir, in a matter like this, there can be no point of satisfaction. We have to double and re-double our efforts. We are doing it and I have placed some figures. The results are being achieved but if there are any officers, who are lack in the discharge of their duties, we shall certainly take action against them.

SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has admitted that there is increase in eve-teasing cases and this increase is alarming. Does it mean that police-men on duty consider eve-teasing as fashion, not a crime.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, police men do not consider eve-teasing as a fashion. Police men consider eve-teasing as an offence and it is our intensive drive against eve-teasing which has resulted in the registration of 1518 cases in the first seven months. I thought that figure showed that we are concerned about it and we are taking a strong attitude towards eve-teasing.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATRAJAN: Sir, I would like to inform the Minister that according to international analysis of the drug abuse, it has been established that there is a connection between drug abuse and increase in terrorism and increase in crime. I would like to know from the Minister if any such analysis has been made in our country, and if there is any nexus between increase in drug abuse, drug traffic and increase in crimes and terrorism with particular reference to school children and students, who if they are not able to get hold of drugs to satisfy their drug habit, usually take to crimes particularly in Delhi?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, there is an increase in the use of

drugs among school children and college students. There is also an increase in certain kinds of crimes. *Prima facie*, I think, there is a nexus, but I will accept the suggestion of the hon. Member. We will try to do a study to see whether there is a direct nexus between increase in use of drugs and increase in terrorism and increase in other crimes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

Achievement of targets for firewood and fodder plantations

*302. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target of bringing 5 million hectares of wasteland under firewood and fodder plantation is likely to be achieved by the end of the current five year plan;

(b) if so, what are the details of

the achievements in the first year of the current plan; and

(c) what are the details of the areas chosen for this purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) The object of bringing 5 million hectares of land every year under afforestation is likely to be achieved, in case adequate funds are made available therefor.

(b) As against a target of 1.40 million ha. the achievement in 1985-86 has been afforestation on 1.51 million ha. of land.

(c) The programme is being implemented throughout each State/U.T. The State-wise target and achievement is given in the Statement placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

State-wise targets and achievements under afforestation during 1985-86

Sl. No.	State/UT	Target (in, 000 ha.)	Achievement (in, 000 ha.)
1	Andhra Pradesh	130.0	157.80
2	Assam	20.0	19.80
3	Bihar	75.0	76.15
4	Gujarat	127.5	124.85
5	Haryana	47.5	46.85
6	Himachal Pradesh	27.5	33.60
7	Jammu & Kashmir	17.5	23.35
8	Karnataka	125.0	127.30
9	Kerala	30.0	58.30