

RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, the 20th March 1980/the 30th
Phalguna 1901 (Saka)

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

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Murder of a Policeman by Bangladesh Nationals

•141. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA; Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a policeman was murdered at or around the Lumding railway station in November, 1979;

(b) whether it is a fact that the culprits were Bangladesh nationals living in that area; and

(c) whether the culprits have been arrested and if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (GANI ZAIL SINGH): (a) to (c) According to the information received from the State Government, one constable of Assam Police was killed and two policemen were injured by a violent mob on 20th November, 1979 at Lumding. Altogether 38 persons have been arrested so far and investigations are in progress. It has not yet been established that there was any Bangladeshi national amongst the persons arrested.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, the answer of the hon. Minister is not complete and it does not convince anyone who has knowledge of the things there. Now, when the police party went to arrest some of the Bangladesh nationals there—because Lumding station is a concentration of foreigners for a long time—there was an attack on them. And when some persons were going to be arrested, then a counter-attack came from the people there and they murdered one police man; he was brutally

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killed. Thereafter when the police party went to arrest some of the culprits, there was again an attack and the persons arrested were taken away by a large crowd there. I want to know from the Minister whether any culprits have been arrested. What are the details and what are their names because if their names and addresses are given out, then automatically the facts will be out. I would like the Minister to give the facts relating to this aspect of my question.

जानी जेल सिंह : नाम तो इस वक्त मैं नहीं बता सकता लेकिन ये जितने भी हैं ये लुमडिंग और उसके सबर्बन एरिया में से थे और उनके बारे में डिटेल यह है—3 नेपाली हैं, एक पंजाबी, एक बौद्ध कास्ट का, एक कछारी, एक मुसलिम, एक बिहारी और 31 बंगाली हैं ।

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, from the statement given by the Home Minister and from the reports appearing in the Press . . .

SHRI KALYAN ROY: They seem to be dangerous foreigners.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA:... about the number of persons arrested, these names are not there. So, I would request the hon. Minister to collect the correct facts about the situation and inform this House about the persons who were really arrested—not about those persons who were later on arrested in some other connection. About the persons arrested in that particular connection, I would request him to collect the facts.

जानी जेल सिंह : चेयरमैन साहब, आसाम गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से जो रिपोर्ट मिली है वह इसी के अनुसार है, लेकिन आनरेबल मेम्बर को मैं यकीन दिलाता हूँ जितने आदमी पकड़े गये हैं और कौन सी तारीख को पकड़े गये हैं उन के नाम और सारा ब्यौरा सभा को बता दिया जायेगा ।

SHRI SADASIV BAGAITKAR: May I ask the hon. Home Minister whether he is aware that in this particular area, there are a number of employees from Bangladesh? Male-gaon is the headquarters of the Railways and I am, for his benefit, reading from the report of Employment Review Committee of Assam. It says out of the total number of employees which is 4474, the employees from Bangladesh are 56.8 per cent, that is, 2,504. If this particular fact is kept in mind, I would like to ask the Home Minister whether the Assam Government and the Central Government would take necessary steps to check crimes in that area and the way the criminals are being protected by those whose interests are involved in this peculiar situation.

ज्ञानी जेल सिंह : चेयरमैन साहब, गवर्नमेंट खास तौर पर इस इलाके के अपराधों को रोकने के लिए प्रयत्नशील है। जहाँ तक उन के परसेटेज का सवाल है कि वह बांग्लादेशी हैं या किसी और देश के रहने वाले हैं, इंडियन नेशनल हैं, इस के बारे में आसाम सरकार लगातार जानकारी करती रहती है। वाई बने हुए हैं और एक असिस्टेंट सेशन जज के लेवल का आदमी उस का चेयरमैन होता है। वह उन की भी जानकारी कर लेगा। अगर विशेष जानकारी की जरूरत हो तो हम इस की जानकारी कर के बता सकते हैं।

Cabinet Committee on monitoring industrial growth

•142. SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF†: DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Mohammed Usman Arif.

(a) what steps Government have taken to ensure capacity utilisation of industries during 1980; and

(b) whether any Cabinet Committee on monitoring industrial growth has been set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) The steps taken to ensure fuller utilisation of capacity include close monitoring to achieve targets, availability of requisite inputs, where necessary through the import of raw materials in a timely manner, stress on power generation and distribution, and quick implementation of projects including diversification, generation of exports etc.

(b) No, Sir.

SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF: Will the Minister kindly give figures of capacity utilisation in selected industries during the previous years?

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: We have the figures between 1974 and 1979-80 on capacity utilisation. If the hon. Member is hinting at the data between the two years, I can give selected figures for the period 1976-77 to 1978-79.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Lay it on the table of the House.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: I will give the whole data. I am informing the House about the fall in capacity utilisation percentage during 1976 and 1979. In the basic industries, aluminium fell from 85 to 77; Copper fell from 43 to 41; Zinc fell from 70 to 67; Lead fell from 91 to 54; Cement fell from 89 to 83. In the intermediary industries, newsprint fell from 76 to 54; caustic soda from 83 to 81; soda ash from 89 to 88; light chlorine from 58 to 51; water dyes from 93 to 79; blasting explosive from 93 to 75. In the man-made fibres, viscose cord fell from 82 to 77; viscose filament from 105 to 101. In thermoplastics, from 114 to 87; in wire