

ACHARYA VINOBA BHAVE'S STATEMENT
ON NAXALITES

200. SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a remark made by Acharya Vinoba Bhave expressing his sympathy for the aims of the Naxalites as reported in Press on February, 15, 1971; and

(b) if so, what are the reactions of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K.C. PANT): (a) Government have seen press reports on this subject.

(b) While Government have already clarified their firm commitment to policies aimed at eradication of poverty and removal of social injustice, they have also reiterated their unqualified determination to root out lawlessness and to eliminate the "politics" of murder and assault.

FIRING INSIDE MIDNAPUR
JAIL

201. SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE:
SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA
MENON:
SHRI NIREN GHOSH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a firing inside Midnapur Central Jail on 16th December, 1970;

(b) if so, what was the number of casualties; and

(c) what was the cause of the firing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K.C. PANT): (a) to (c) On December 16, 1970, extremist prisoners became unruly and violent and armed with brickbats, iron rods etc. looted from the jail blacksmithy,

attacked the other prisoners who did not join them in creating disturbance in the jail premises. They also tried to escape from the jail by attacking the jail warders who had to open fire in self defence to prevent their escape. 9 persons were killed, 2 due to bullet injuries and 7 due to injuries inflicted by sharp cutting and blunt weapons. 25 persons, including 15 members of the jail staff, received injuries.

STABBING OF SHRI T.P. MUKHERJEE OF
BARASAT ENQUIRY COMMISSION

202. SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE:
SHRI NIREN GHOSH:
SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA
MENON:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shri T.P. Mukherjee of Barasat Enquiry Commission was stabbed on or about the 19th December, 1970 in the morning;

(b) whether any of the assailants have since been arrested; and

(c) whether any investigations have been made by the police and if so, what is the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K.C. PANT): (a) to (c). On 19th December 1970 Shri T.P. Mukherjee was assaulted by some miscreants with knives, rods and lathis. He was seriously injured and admitted to the SSKM Hospital. The case is under investigation. Uptodate information about the number of persons arrested and the result of investigation is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the table of the House.

CONSTRUCTION OF BARAGE OVER KOSHSI
GANDAK, SARJU, GHAGRA AND RIHAND
DAM

203. SHRI A.P. CHATTERJEE:
SHRI K.P. SUBRAMANIA
MENON:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state: