

## RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 10th May. 10,70 16 Vaisakha, 892  
(Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock. MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### INTER-PARTY CLASHES IN WEST BENGAL

\*aog. SHRI KALYAN ROY : t SHRI  
'HUPESH GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the number of inter-party clashes which took place in various districts of West Bengal since the imposition of the President's Rule

(b) the names of parties which were involved in such clashes, the places where such clashes took place and the number of persons injured/killed in each case; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to check such clashes?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

The incidence of inter-party clashes after the issue of the Presidential Proclamation in respect of West Bengal has been lower than during the period when the United Front Government was in power. Detailed information is awaited from the Government of West Bengal in regard to the number of inter-party clashes in each district, the names of the parties involved, the places where such clashes took place and the number of persons killed or injured in each case.

Suitable action under law has been initiated in respect of specific incidents and investigations are being pursued vigorously. By way of preventive action police pickets have been established in areas where trouble has been apprehended.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Kalyan Roy.

1—28 R. S./70

Systematic searches have been organised and considerable quantities of arms and ammunition allegedly in unauthorised possession had been recovered. Action\* under law has also been initiated in respect of known bad\*characters.

SHRI KALYAN ROY : I think the Home Minister will agree with me that a dangerous situation has been created in West Bengal where the employers and the rich landlords have started large-scale retrenchment and eviction of peasants on the one hand and CPM violence continues unabated on the other hand. There is dogfight among the high officers for position and status. The whole administration is in a state of atrophy and entire Departments have gone into hibernation. Unfortunately the credit column of the administration under President's rule is blank, nil. I want to know from the Home Minister whether it is true that the present standstill of the administration is a result of the friction within the Government. In other words, I think his attention has been drawn to the very strong condemnation by the IAS officers' association of the Governor. Is it the aim of the IAS association to shield their officers who are not taking proper steps or is it because the Governor is not pulling on well with the high officers?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I know there were certainly some initial difficulties some of which are yet to be overcome. But I must say that in the last few weeks the upper structure of the State administration has started functioning. I do not deny that there were some difficulties in the initial period, but I think if we give them co-operation and understanding for some time, they will assert themselves and bring about that efficiency which is necessary.

SHRI KALYAN ROY : Will the Home Minister tell us whether it is not true that the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, Mr. P. K. Sen, is totally failing to restore law and order? As you have seen yesterday in Calcutta, in Beliaghata, the Communist Party Marxists attacked the Forward Block people. Both he and the I.G. of Police, West Bengal, are trying to go on leave in order to evade their responsibility. May I know if the leave has been granted? Secondly, has he received from Members of Parliament serious allegations against the Addl. S. P. of Asansol who is to look after law and order in Qurgapur, in the coal belt, where many

murders are taking place, that this Addl. S.P. is going about with the murderers, instead of arresting them? He is shielding those who should have been arrested. What has he got to say about the Addl. S.P. Asaniol, whether he is going to be removed? Also what has he to say about the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta and the I.G. of Police, West Bengal?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: As far as the Addl. S. P. of Asansol is concerned, the hon. Member himself made complaints to me and I am having them looked into. Some other M. Ps. had mentioned the same thing to me. As far as the Commissioner of Police of Calcutta is concerned, he mentioned about certain leave application, etc. I think he had applied for leave before retirement, and that matter is under consideration.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Has he been granted the leave? What about the I.G. of Police?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: As far as the I. G. of Police is concerned, I do not know. Regarding the Commissioner of Police, the officer wants to go on leave before retirement and that matter<sup>1</sup> is under consideration. If the request is granted, there is nothing wrong about it.

SHRI ANANT PRASAD SHARMA: After the imposition of the President's rule everybody had heaved a sigh of relief that at least the law and order situation would not improve after the dislodgement of the United Front which was mainly responsible for these things in that State. But even after the imposition of the President's rule so far as we could see today the position has not improved. On the other hand it has become impossible for any political party either to take out a procession or hold or conduct peaceful meetings. Everyday firing, looting and killing are going on on such occasions. May I know from the Home Minister what steps the Central Government is now proposing to take to improve the situation in Bengal and bring Bengal to a normal position of law and order?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I think it is better to take a correct view of the matter. I said that the situation has not returned to normal but even without going into the details I must say that a slight improvement is noticeable. I am myself aware that it is not yet as satisfactory as we expect it to be. I have already gone

into the different aspects—murders that are taking place, the inter-party clashes that are taking place etc. But there is a certain improvement. In one matter, however, I cannot say that there is improvement, there is a deterioration and that is in the number of violent incidents by the Naxalites particularly in Calcutta and round about areas.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Why don't you ban them?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: That is a different matter.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Strai-jhtforward action.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I wish it was so simple as that. So, the police administration has started asserting itself and a large number of Naxalities have been arrested. In certain cases some preventive action has also been taken, and investigation has been undertaken very energetically. As far as the police machinery, the Government machinery, is concerned, it has started functioning. I think we will have to give them some more time before passing any final judgement on this matter.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MOKHERJEE: May I know whether he is aware of the fact that recently the IAS Association under the influence of Mr. Murshed, a pro-Marxist Officer, is creating a deadlock and has taken a completely non-co-operative attitude with the Governor? Is it also not a fact that a large number of district officers, practically supporters of the Marxist Communist Party, are not even doing their lawful duty when complaints of inter-party clashes are coming to them and violence is taking place? They are not discharging their lawful duty keeping in view that the Marxist Party will come into power. I want to know whether he is aware of the fact and, if so, what action he is going to take.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON: How can he say pro-Marxist officers?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: That is a fact.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Of course very unfortunately a controversy is going on between the IAS Association and the Governor, but I would not make any sweeping judgement about this matter. I cannot say that all officers are non-cooperating.

SHRI PRATAP AB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : A good number.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : It is possible that some group of officers here and there possibly may be so, but we have to look at it very carefully find out the facts of every case and act accordingly. I would require the co-operation of the hon. House. When the whole thing is in the process of being set in order, if we take a very partial view, rather an unkind view of our officers, possibly it will demoralise the entire apparatus. I think the House should show a little more patience and give a little more time before we pass any judgment.

SHRI A. D. (TANU) : According to the statement, by which if preventive action police pickets have been established in certain areas where trouble has been apprehended, and systematic searches have been organised. According to a Member from West Bengal I understand that in Ballygunge area, in Chowringhee area, in Central Avenue, people cannot walk about in the evenings.

SHRI KALIN ROY : Old men should not be seen walking about in the Chowringhee area.

SHRI A. D. (TANU) : I am asking for information. What are those areas where pickets have been stationed? This is a very important question.

May I ask him also this question • Papers have published yesterday or the day before the news that the Governor of West Bengal has been repeatedly asking for the promulgation of the Preventive Detention Law. Is this true or not?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : The West Bengal Administration has made a suggestion to the Government of India about more powers, particularly on the lines of preventive detention. In the alternative, they have also suggested certain amendment to the Criminal Procedure Code. These are matters where we cannot just act unilaterally. As the Consultative Committee for West Bengal is being constituted, we will have to put the suggestions before that Committee.

SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : In West Bengal there have been a series of murders during the period of the United Front Government.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIAMENON : They were there earlier also.

SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Those murders were dubbed as political murders. When we put question regarding the political murders here the hon. Minister stated that law and order in the hands of the State Government. Now, Sir, we find the very same series of murders continuing even during the President's rule. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what special steps have been taken by this Government to stop those murders. Whether it is political or non-political, murder is murder. If the capital offence is committed continuously from the period of the United Front Government and the period of President rule....

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is the question?

SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether they have taken any special steps to stop this capital offence being committed continuously.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : They are ordinary murders.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I never said that political murders have stopped. I know of political murders, having taken place even during the President's rule. The only thing that I can say now is that the law machinery is asserting itself. Many arrests have been made and investigations have been undertaken more vigorously. That is the only thing I can say about it.

SHRI N. G. GORAY : In view of the prevailing suspicion about the partiality of the top officers in the Police Department—

AN HON. MEMBER : Governor also.

SHRI N. G. GORAY : I am confining myself only to the police officers. Will the Minister of Home Affairs consider whether it will be possible to induce some efficient officers from outside for some time?

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : That is not a popular way.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Merely sending officers from outside is not likely to help because it will create feeling of discontent among the services, instead of creating an atmosphere of co-operation. It will create more problems than it will solve.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : About the kind of activity that the Naxalites are indulging in West Bengal, even though the hon. Home Minister may say publicly that it may have to be tackled on a political front, I know that in his heart of hearts he knows that it cannot be done like that. What I want to ask the Minister is; What is the position of the Government regarding applying preventive detention in West Bengal ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I think I have answered this question.

श्री निरंजन वर्मा : क्या श्रीमन् ने कभी इस बात की जांच की है कि वहां पर अधिकांश में लोग बमों से डरते हैं और वहां बम ही ज्यादा फटते हैं तो बम के फटने पर क्या आप ने यह जांच की है कि बमों में उपयोग होने वाली जो कच्ची सामग्री है उस का स्रोत क्या है ? क्या यह पाकिस्तान और चीन से आती है और अगर वहां से नहीं आती है तो क्या अपने देश में और खास कर बंगाल में पिकरिक ऐसिड, डायनामाइट, मैग्नेशियम और पोटैश, इन चार चीजों पर कोई लाइसेंस रखा है या नहीं या उन की सर्वसाधारण में खुले आम बिक्री होती है ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I think we are discussing some explosive matter on the floor of this House. I think I did explain—I will repeat what I had said at that time—that most of the so-called bombs or explosives are of local manufacture and the chemical material which is necessary for that is now a common requirement for industrial purposes in our country. It is not something special. Of course, in certain cases licences are required but possibly, they must be changing hands and ultimately reaching undesirable hands. That is the position.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON : May I know whether during the President's rule which is otherwise *benami* Congress rule, the Government has taken any decision to restore what are called the lands occupied by the peasants in West Bengal from the Jotedars, lands which were held *benami* by the Jotedars in violation of the Land Reforms Act of West Bengal and whether such efforts by the Government to restore the lands back to the Jotedars

are leading to further violence in the countrywide and whether the Government is going to implement this decision?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I think the hon. Member is misinterpreting the whole thing.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: As usual.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: As usual I will explain this thing. Sir, the land problem is a very important problem as well as a very complex problem in the whole of the country and more particularly in West Bengal. Sir, the United Front Government has passed two laws—very important laws they are—and the question is of implementing them. But the implementation has been made more complicated because of certain unauthorised occupations of a large number of acres of land. Now, Sir, the present administration has applied its mind to it and they are coming forward with certain suggestions. I think the principle will have to be ultimately that whatever the surplus land the West Bengal Government have got, that will have to be distributed amongst the landless, and this will be the guiding principle for the present administration as well. Therefore, I do not think the hon. Member can take the monopoly *oi'* being more progressive than we are.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know if the Governor or the Home Minister has considered the advisability of ascertaining the socioeconomic reasons for the increase in the number of the Naxalites in West Bengal and, if so, has the Government considered the advisability of ordering a socio economic study of the reasons for the rise in the number of the Naxalites there ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: It is a very good suggestion.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY : Some time before the Home Minister said that there is improvement in the situation. But, unfortunately, that feeling cannot be shared by the people at large. When we open the newspapers we find nothing but murders in Calcutta, this place or that place. Now, Sir, my question is this. In view of the popular demand that the State Governor is not an impartial man, that he has got some confirmed views of certain political party or otherwise in simple words—which I hope the Home Minister would understand—that he is supposed to be a coar-holder, in view of this

persistent rumour all over the country, would the Home\* Minister take a bold decision in either sending the Governor to any other State or ousting him from West Bengal in order to bring about peace and tranquillity for the much-suffered people of West Bengal?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Government I have no proposal of transferring the Governor and the Government never works on the basis of rumours.

SHRI B. K. KAUL: I would like to know from the hon. Home Minister if he is aware if the...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have taken 18 minutes.

SHRI B. K. KAUL: ... resolution of the Congress\* Legislature Party (Right) of West Bengal that the Governor, being a partyman, should be recalled and whether it is not a fact that the arms used there in West Bengal are such arms which have been smuggled out from the Ordnance Factory in Kanpur.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I have read about that, about the Congress Party (R) having passed a Resolution. I hope the hon. Member accepts that Resolution.

SHRI B. K. KAUL: I want to know whether the Government is considering recalling the Governor at the instance of the party's request. Secondly, about the arms which have been smuggled out from Kanpur, are these arms being used by the Naxalites?

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Government have no proposal of recalling him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, do you want to answer the question about arms? He has mentioned something about them.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Arms?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kaul, what is your question. Kindly repeat please. He did not hear it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is his question.

SHRI Y. B. RAJU: On a point of order, Sir, it is the proceedings. Sir, every day we do not complete even two or three

questions. Why cannot such matters be allowed to be debated after question hour?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I can consider it when there is a notice for this.

SHRI B. K. KAUL: I want to know whether the arms which are being used by Naxalites and other Marxists are those smuggled from the Kanpur Ordnance Factory? Is he aware of it?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I will have to ascertain facts about it. I cannot say whether they are, or they are not.

\*2io. [Transferred to the 12th May 1970.]

\*2ii. The questioner [Shri Loknath Misra] was absent for answer vide Col. 34 infra.]

### भारत में आने के लिये जारी किए गए वीसा

\*102. श्री राम सहाय : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) विदेशियों को भारत में आने के लिए जारी किए गए वीसों की संख्या के, जो 1968 के वर्ष में 83414 थी, घटकर 1969 के वर्ष में 76899 रह जाने के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ख) 1970 के वर्ष में अब तक ऐसे कितने वीसा जारी किए गए हैं ?

### f [NUMBER OF VISAS ISSUED FOR ENTERING INDIA

\*10a. SHRI RAM SAHAJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons that the number of visas issued to foreigners entering into India which was 83414 during the year 1968 had come down to 76899 during the year 1969; and

(b) what is the number of such visas issued so far during the year 1970?]

J Transferred from the 30th April, 1970. [ ] English translation.