

†[THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : (a) According to information received by the Central Government from their agencies there had been 101 murders in West Bengal in 1969 arising out of interparty clashes, and activities of CP(M/L) and other extremists. According to information received from the Government of West Bengal, during the period December 1, 1969 to February 27, 1970, 41 such cases had taken place, involving the death of 43 persons, including 8 in Calcutta. The State Government have further informed that 1432 grievances had taken place in West Bengal from January 1, 1969 to January 31, 1970. Information regarding cases of closure of mills, looting of crops and teasing and molestation of women is being collected.

(b) and (c) The state government have decided to institute judicial inquiries into the incidents at Burdwan and at Tribeni in Hooghly district. The remaining cases are being investigated according to law. The state government have taken steps to deal firmly with the elements indulging in violence.]

REVIEW OF ORDERS PASSED BY WEST BENGAL HOME DEPARTMENT DURING U.F. RULE

*81. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA :
DR. DEBIPRASAD CHHATTOPADHYAYA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of West Bengal have decided to review fresh all orders issued by the Home Department during the regime of the U. F. Government for withdrawal of criminal cases which had not so far been implemented ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether it is also proposed to make an investigation into the working of the Home Department during the U. F. Government ; and

(d) the details of the criminal cases relating to different types of crimes that were pending in courts and were withdrawn by the Home Department during the period from February, 1969 to March, 1970 ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : (a) to (d) Facts are being ascertained from the State Government.

†[] English translation.

FREE EDUCATION UP TO CLASS VIII IN SCHOOLS IN WEST BENGAL

*82. SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES be pleased to state the steps being taken for implementing the West Bengal United Front Government's commitment of making education free up to Class VIII in the schools in West Bengal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN) : We have been informed by the Government of West Bengal that there was no commitment of the West Bengal Government for making education free up-to-class VIII. The United Front Party had formulated a proposal to that effect in June, 1969. The Cabinet of the West Bengal Government appointed a sub-committee to look into the matter. The matter could not, however, be decided before the United Front Government resigned. A draft bill on primary Education prepared by the Cabinet Sub-Committee is under examination of the State Government.

ACTIVITIES OF NON-GAZETTED POLICE ASSOCIATIONS IN WEST BENGAL

*83. DR. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the activities of the newly established non-Gazetted Police Association in West Bengal ; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto and what steps Government propose to take to preserve the non-partisan character of the police personnel and their organisation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to information received from the State Government the activities of the newly formed Non-gazetted Police Karmachari Samiti are under watch. Government servants are precluded under the relevant Conduct Rules from taking part in Politics. If any Government servant is found to have committed any infringement of the relevant provisions in the Conduct Rules suitable action will require to be taken.