

SHRIMATI NANDINI SAT-PATHY: Madam, as has already been said by the Prime Minister, all these things are taken into consideration while formulating the plan by Planning Commission and according to the resources available it has been decided to give this amount to Madhya Pradesh. It is for the State to take up certain things and to raise their own resources.

श्रीमती विद्यावती चतुर्वेदी : क्या मंत्री महोदया यह बताने की कृपा करेंगी कि योजना कमिशन की यह रिपोर्ट है कि जो पिछड़े हुए इलाके हैं उनके लिये विशेष सुविधा दी जाये, लेकिन इस बात को मद्देनजर रखते हुए कि मध्य प्रदेश बहुत पिछड़ा है और उसके कई क्षेत्र देश के और हिस्सों से अधिक पिछड़े हुए हैं और ऐसा होते हुए भी आज तक किसी भी पंचवर्षीय योजना में उनके लिये प्राथमिकता नहीं दी गई, क्या मध्य प्रदेश की तरफ विशेष ध्यान दिया जायेगा ?

श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी : दुर्भाग्य से हमारे सारे देश में हर एक राज्य में पिछड़े हुए इलाके हैं और पिछड़ी हुई जातियां हैं। इसको मद्देनजर रखकर जो अभी सारी पंचवर्षीय योजना बनी है उसमें हमने इस पर विशेष ध्यान दिया है कि किस तरह से हमारी नींव मजबूत हो जिससे हम इन लोगों की सहायता कर सकें।

SHRI DEORAO KRISHNARAC JADHAV: It is very difficult to understand the problems of Madhya Pradesh. Since the reorganisation of the State, four areas were joined together without taking into consideration the cultural and economic conditions of the areas. Except for Madhya Bharat, the other areas, viz., Vindhya Pradesh, Bhopal and Mahakoshal, were all backward areas and these have been put together.

† The Question was actually asked on the floor of House by Shri Krishna Kant.

Since 1957 no intensive programme has been taken up nor any efforts have been made for the uplift of this area. Now, we are asked to depend on our own resources for the development of those areas. How would it be possible? How can we increase our resources without special funds being allotted to us?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI:

This is a question which is faced by all the States. As the Deputy Minister has pointed out, Central assistance is to the tune of Rs. 262 crores. So, they are getting substantial Central assistance. Although I agree that Madhya Pradesh has certain very special problems—other States have also special problems though perhaps of a slightly different nature—Madhya Pradesh is not worse off as far as allocations in the Plan are concerned.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Next question.

CONFERENCE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF INDIANS LIVING IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES

•213. SHRI RIZAQ RAM:

SHRI KRISHAN KANT:† SHRI ARJUN ARORA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India propose to call a Conference of representatives of Indians living in many countries of Africa to understand their problems; and

(b) if so, when the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: May I know from the Government if they are aware that there was a move for calling a conference of representatives of Indians living in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda and whether our High Commissioners situated there have in anyway extended their co-operation for holding such a conference?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: I do not know to which particular proposal the hon. Member refers. If he refers to the recent seminar which was held in Delhi . . .

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: No. I asked whether our High Commissioners in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda extended any co-operation to the move for calling a conference of representatives of Indians living in those countries.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: We are not aware of any such move being made by anybody in Kenya.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know what is the Indian population in these three African countries and what is the population of people of Indian origin in these three countries?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: I have got the figures and with your permission I shall give them. In Kenya the number of Indian citizens are 4,100, the number of persons who have taken up local citizenship is 9,000 by registration and 30,000 by birth. The number of persons who are holding British passports is 1,11,900. In Tanzania the number of Indian citizens are 5,000. The number of persons who have taken up local citizenship is 35,000 and British citizens are 50,000. In Uganda Indian citizens are 1,600 persons who have taken up local citizenship are 30,000 by birth and 14,500 by registration and 30,000 persons are holding British passports.

DR. B. N. ANTANI: Will the hon. Minister be able to tell me how many Indians in Zanzibar now remain out of 30,000 and whether the High Commissioner in Tanzania has even now visited Zanzibar and reported to the Government?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: I have given the figures about Tanzania as a whole, but I have not got the figures for Zanzibar. If the hon. Member will give us a fresh notice, we shall try and get it.

DR. B. N. ANTANI: Have you got any report from our High Commissioner and has he visited the place?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: We did ask our High Commissioner to go to Zanzibar and let us have a report. I have not yet seen the report and I cannot say offhand whether he has actually visited or not. But we did ask him and we are awaiting his report.

DR. B. N. ANTANI: That is my grievance always here that the High Commissioners never report.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN: May I know from the hon. Minister whether Government are aware of the problems of Indians living in these African countries? May I further know what are their special problems? Are the Government aware and have our diplomatic missions in these African countries brought to the notice of the Government these problems and what steps have been taken by our diplomatic missions to tackle these problems? And would I be correct in stating that our diplomatic missions in these African countries have completely failed in their task of finding a solution to these problems?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: Madam, these problems are very well known to us and it has been explained in the House on a number of occasions that the main problem

has arisen from the policy of Africa-nisation which these countries are following. After their independence they are trying to bring more and more sectors of their economy into the hands of their nationals, as a result of which these people of Asian or Indian origin, who have not taken up local citizenship and are still holding on to British passports, are finding it difficult to stay on in these countries. They are gradually being pushed out of the various trades. The problems are known to us. About what action we have taken or what action has been taken by our diplomatic missions to help these unfortunate people, it has been said that it is very difficult for us to interfere on their behalf. Despite legal difficulties we have done our very best to take up their case with the local Governments and tried to get their grievances and difficulties removed. All these actions have been taken from time to time.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: May I know from the Government whether our High Commissioner at Dar-es-Salam or Tanzania, not recently but may be during the last two or three years, had visited Zanzibar and, if so, what report had he given? In view of the fact that some people feel that our High Commissioners are not very co-operative with those persons and there are complaints, what is the Government going to do in this matter? May I know whether the Government would consider sending a delegation of Member of Parliament like Dr. Antani, so that the problem could be studied on the spot?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: The hon. Member need not try to interpret what Dr. Antani had asked me. I think Dr. Antani knows very well what he had asked me. I had said in this House earlier that we had seen the High Commissioner in that context. We would have no objection to Dr. Antani going there himself if he so desires, but he knows most of the problems.

STATE PLANNING COMMISSION

*214. **DR. BHAI MAHAWR:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish State Planning Commissions at the State level to ensure balanced development of the States and to remove regional disparities;

(b) whether any State Governments have expressed their desire to set up such State Planning Commissions in their States; and

(c) if so, the names of those States?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER (SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPA-THY): (a) to (c) It is for individual State Governments to decide what appropriate planning machinery should be set up at the State level. Organisations in relation to Planning take a variety of forms in the different States such as State Planning Boards, State Planning Advisory Councils, State Planning Committees and Planning Sub-committees of the State Cabinets.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: May I know whether it is a fact that there are various types of bodies, but the constitution of a Commission with the status and autonomy and respect which a Commission commands— does the Government not think that the setting up of such a body would lead to the issues of planning being taken out of political pressures and party considerations and being placed on a level where they can be dealt with as they should be dealt with? In view of the fact that there are regional imbalances and disparities in almost all the States, if such Planning Commissions of States could be set up, would it not help in creating greater confidence in the people and lead to a solution of this problem of regional disparities?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: The Planning Commission as well as the Administrative Reforms Commission have suggested that the State