

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN) : (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix LXV, Annexure No. 97.]

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : May I know from the Minister when was the report received, what steps have been taken so far to implement it, how many of the States have undertaken to implement the report and what is the progress in this matter?

SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN : The report of the Committee was received, I think, in April and immediately after that copies of the report were sent to the various State Governments. The whole report is under examination both by the Central Government and the State Governments and no definite decisions have been taken so far.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : May I know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the resources for such roads have been progressively reduced and, therefore, it is not possible even to implement a part of the recommendations of the Sinha Committee, if the resources are not made available?

SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN : It is a fact that on account of the constraint on financial resources, allotments for roads have been heavily cut down during recent years, but we hope that something will come out in the Fourth Plan.

SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN : The statement says that the Committee has recommended an addition of 5,54,400 kilometres of rural roads in the next twenty years. The Committee has also recommended that the Government should give priority to backward areas. May I know from the hon. Minister whether any break-up of the rural roads in backward areas has also been recommended by this Committee and, if so, what is that?

SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN : This Committee did not recommend State-wise plans as such. Only broad outlines have been laid down and it is up to the State Governments to take a decision.

SHRI C. D. PANDE : According to the Second Nagpur Plan the roads started in 1960 were to be increased by a certain mileage between 1961 and 1981. Seven years have passed. May I know from the hon. Minister what percentage of the target has been achieved?

SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN : I am sorry to admit that even according to the report submitted by this Committee, the targets, which were envisaged in the Twenty Year Plan, 1961-81, have lagged far behind. According to this report the plan envisages the development of 2,25,000 miles of village roads and 1,80,000 miles of other district roads by 1981. So far, only 10 per cent and 20 per cent respectively of these targets have been attained.

DR. B. N. ANTANI : The hon. Minister recently made an extensive tour in the district of Kutch and saw the roads. He has witnessed the condition of the rural roads on the border side. May I know whether he has taken any steps to see that these rural roads are not only improved but also extended?

SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN : As far as the roads in Kutch, from which the hon. Member comes, are concerned, I think every possible effort is being made, especially by the Central Government, through the agency of the State Government, to see that they are brought up to the standard.

खम्पा शरणार्थियों का ईसाई बनाया जाना

*563. श्री जगत नारायण : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान इस बात की ओर दिलाया गया है कि ईसाई धर्म प्रचारक मसूरी और चकरीता में हाल में तिब्बत से आए खम्पा शरणार्थियों को बड़ी संख्या में ईसाई बना रहे हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस धर्म-परिवर्तन को रोकने के लिये सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

† [CONVERSION OF KHAMPA REFUGEES INTO CHRISTIANITY]

*563. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

† [] English translation.

(a) whether Government are aware that Christian missionaries are converting into Christianity a large number of Khampa refugees who have come to Mussoorie and Chakrata from Tibet recently, and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government to stop these conversions]

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल) :—(क) सरकार को ऐसी कोई रिपोर्ट प्राप्त नहीं हुई है।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA)

(a) No such report has been received by Government.

(b) Does not arise.]

श्री जगत नारायण : मैं इस सदन के मेम्बरान को यह यकीन दिलाना चाहता हू कि मैं क्रिश्चियनिटी के खिलाफ नहीं हू और न ही क्रिश्चियन मिशन के खिलाफ हू, मगर मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हू कि नागालैंड और मीजो लैंड में फारेन क्रिश्चियन मिशनरीज ने जो हिन्दुस्तान के खिलाफ बगावत के शोले बुलन्द किये हैं उन को महनजर रखते हुए क्या वह बतलायेंगे कि इस सबध में खबरे अखबारों में भी छपी है, क्या वह उन सब को कलेक्ट कर के बतलायेंगे वहां क्या हो रहा है और वे उस के लिये क्या स्टेप्स उठा रहे हैं।

श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल : जो अखबार में इस तरह की खबरे छपती हैं हम लोग उन की जाच पड़ताल करने का प्रयत्न करते हैं और जाच पड़ताल करने के बाद ही मैंने आप को सूचना दी कि इस इलाके में जो भी विदेशी मिशनरीज की गतिविधिया होती हैं उनके ऊपर हम निगाह रखते हैं और जरा भी यदि कोई राष्ट्र-द्रोही कार्यवाही करे तो उस के ऊपर उचित कार्यवाही भी की जाती है।

श्री जगत नारायण : यह जो अपना चकरीता है यह वार्डर के नजदीक है तो क्या वजीर साहब को पता है कि वहां फारेन मिशनरीज अपना

काम जारी रखे हुए हैं और वहां वे इन खम्पाओं को अपनी तरह से प्रोत्साहित कर रहे हैं।

श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल : इस सबध में हमें पूरी सूचना है और अभी तक हम को उनकी ऐसी कोई आपत्तिजनक कार्यवाही का पता नहीं लगा है कि जिस के ऊपर हम कोई कार्यवाही कर सकें। इस तरह की बातों का हम पता लगाने की कोशिश करते हैं और दिनरात हम लोग इस पर ध्यान रखते हैं और मैं यह बतलाना चाहता हू माननीय सदस्य को कि अगर कोई ऐसी कार्यवाही नजर में आयी तो कार्यवाही एकदम की जायगी।

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA I do not understand the basis of the information of the hon Minister. If one goes to Mussoorie and other hill areas, where many Tibetan refugees are settled, and keeps an open eye and an open mind, one can see that there is a lot of conversion going on amongst them. Now, these people became voluntary exiles to preserve their religion and culture. We gave them asylum to enable them to preserve their religion and culture. Now, instead of force, persuasion, allurements and all these things are being applied. The Government keeps its mind closed and eyes closed and Government has no such information. I went to these areas and I could see a lot of conversion going on.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA. I did not say that the Government keeps its eyes closed and its mind closed. We keep them wide open and that is why I am making this statement. We know what activities are going on. Where objectionable activities are going on, we have tried and stopped them. We keep a strict control and watch over all the activities going on in the border areas. That is why I am saying that at present the kind of incident that was alleged by the hon. Member has not come to our notice and if it comes to our notice we shall definitely take action.

श्री निरंजन वर्मा : क्या श्रीमान यह बतलायेंगे जैसा कि उत्तर में बतलाया गया है कि यह सीमा-वर्ती इलाका है और आप उस पर पूरी निगाह

रख रहे हैं तो इस सीमावर्ती इलाके में खम्पाओं की आर्थिक कमजोरी और उनकी गरीबी का लाभ उठाने के लिये वहां पर ईसाई मिशनरियों ने जिन में ज्यादातर विदेशी हैं, हाई स्कूल और बहुत से अस्पताल खोल रखे हैं और वहां उन को लाकर फिर कनवर्ट किया जाता है।

श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल : अध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय दलाई लामा की अध्यक्षता में तिब्बतियन होम फाउन्डेशन वहां खोला गया है और उस फाउन्डेशन के अंतर्गत वहां बहुत से स्कूल चल रहे हैं और ज्यादातर ये खम्पा शरणार्थी जो हैं इन्हीं स्कूलों में ट्रेनिंग पा रहे हैं और ऐसा मैंने कहा यह फाउन्डेशन जो है दलाई लामा जी की अध्यक्षता में चल रहा है। यह बात ठीक है कि इस फाउन्डेशन में कुछ त्रिश्चियन मिशनरी सोसाइटीज ने पैसा दिया है और हो सकता है कि उन में उन के कुछ आदमी काम करते हैं, लेकिन दलाई लामा जो कि स्वयं तिब्बती शरणार्थियों के ऊपर पूरा ध्यान रखते हैं, उन की भलाई के ऊपर भी ध्यान रखते हैं, वे स्वयं इस बात को देखते हैं और हम उन के साथ उन की सहायता यह करते हैं कि किसीके ऊपर जोर जबरदस्ती से कोई कार्यवाही न हो सके और उनकी भलाई के काम में कोई बाधा न पहुंचा सके।

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: May I know from the Government what is the policy of this Government towards the entire question of conversion to other religion, not particularly on the border areas but at secure places in this country where strategic industries develop, where defence industries develop? The activities of Father Ferrer are before the Government. What is the policy of this Government in stopping this type of conversion being used to undermine the security of this country? May I know whether the Government has got any strong positive policy to stop this nonsense once and for all?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: Sir, under article 25(1) of the Constitution every citizen of India has the right to freely profess, practise and

propagate his religion. That is the fundamental policy as far as the Government is concerned; we do not go beyond this fundamental right which has been given under the Constitution.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: It is undermining our security.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: Whenever any instance comes to our notice where any foreigner or even an Indian is undermining the freedom that has been given to the citizens or undermining the national security we have taken firm action and the hon. Member knows several instances where we have taken such action.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: But they are . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot allow any more.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: As far as the question of coercion is concerned. I have already stated that it is our firm policy not to countenance any coercion anywhere. If we find any instance of coercion, overt or covert, we take action at once.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Samuel.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Sir, I want to know . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall try to accommodate you. You are an important Member of this House and you are very anxious to put a question on this. I shall give you an opportunity

SHRI M. H. SAMUEL: Obviously this question and the supplementaries that are being asked center round the activities of foreign missionaries. There is obviously a difference between foreign missionaries and other Christians doing this kind of service. Probably it might clear the atmosphere a bit if the Minister would please tell us how many foreign missionaries are operating in this area.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: In the border areas?

SHRI M. H. SAMUEL: In this particular area to which the question relates.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA :

In answer to the previous question I forgot to mention one thing. The hon. Member wanted to know whether we have a policy regarding foreign missionaries. I would like to say here that we do have a definite and cogent policy regarding foreign missionaries. It was set down in 1954 in a Cabinet decision; the Cabinet meeting was presided over by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, a very distinguished Indian Christian, was present at the Cabinet meeting. And all our acts are guided by that Cabinet decision that was taken then.

As far as this question is concerned, I do not have the specific figures for this particular area but a little less than 4,000 foreign missionaries are operating in the country.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : May I know what is the strength of the Tibetan refugees in the Mussoorie—Chakrata area and how many of them have been converted into Christianity? May I also know if the Government has come across any case in which it has been a forcible conversion?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : Sir, I have already replied to this question that no instance of any conversion so far has come to our notice so that the question of forcible conversion does not arise. As far as the number of Tibetan refugees is concerned I do not have that figure but I can give the figures of the Tibetan boys who are reading in the various schools run by the Foundations. In Mussoorie there are two institutions with a strength of 588 and 842; in the Dehra Dun area it is 1363 and in Varanasi—it is not a border area—we have about a thousand. That is the total figure for Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA : Sir, I want one clarification from the Minister because he is constantly using the word "forcible". What is his conception of "forcible"? Does it mean putting a man under physical restraint and then forcing him to do something? Sir, "forcible" has a much wider connotation than what the hon. Minister thinks.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : I must make it clear that what is not voluntary is forcible. That is how we take it.

SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD : The hon. Minister was pleased to say that according to the Constitution this sort of conversion is legal. At the same time he was also pleased to say that the Government is keeping an eye on it and would take necessary action if any sort of conversion took place. I just want to know whether converting to Christianity or any other religion is illegal.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA :

I must make my answer further clear. I never said that any conversion is legal. On the other hand I said conversion done under voluntary volition is perfectly legal. There is no law which bars it or makes it illegal. I only said that we are absolutely against forcible conversion or conversion by coercion. Also I did not say that we keep a watch over conversion; we only keep watch over the anti-national activities of any missionary and any forcible conversion or any force used for changing of religion in our opinion is improper.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY : Is the Khampa area one of those areas called sensitive areas from which all foreign missionaries are excluded? If so, are there any foreign missionaries operating in this area?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : Sir, the Khampa area is not in India; it is in Tibet but certainly Khampa refugees have come to India and they are spread over in the areas I have mentioned, namely, Mussoorie, Dehra Dun and Varanasi areas. I have already said that I do not have the exact information as to how many foreign missionaries are operating in this area.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, क्या पैसा बांट कर और अनेक प्रकारका प्रलोभन दे कर किसी के मत या धर्म का परिवर्तन कराया जाना सरकार की दृष्टि में कानूनी है और उचित है। क्या सरकार को इस बात की भी जानकारी है कि बड़े पैमाने पर मिशनरीज के जरिये पैसा बांटा जाता है

लोगों के घरों में जाया जाता है और उनकी औरतों और बच्चों को धोती और कुर्ता दिया जाता है। केवल चकरीता या पहाड़ी इलाकों में ही नहीं बल्कि मिर्जापुर, वागणसी आदि जगहों में और सरकारी सस्थानों में भी जैसे वाराणसी में मडुआडीह में जो डीजेल लोको-मोटिव का सरकारी कारखाना है उस कारखाने में उनको बाकायदा बिल्डिंग दी गई है जहां पर मिशनरी जाते हैं। वहां वे बड़े अफसरों के बच्चों को बाकायदा पढ़ाते हैं और छोटे लोगों को बहकाते हैं।

श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल : पैसा देकर या प्रलोभन दे कर जो भी धर्म परिवर्तन किया जाय वह जहां तक मैं जानता हूँ सर्वथा अनुचित है और गैरकानूनी भी है। जो विदेशी मिशनरी पैसा बांटते हैं या कल्याणकारी कार्रवाई करते हैं वह गैरकानूनी नहीं है। यदि वे कपड़ा देते हैं या गरीबों की सहायता करते हैं या गरीबों की सहायता के लिये विभिन्न प्रकार की कार्रवाईयां करते हैं, उसका यह मतलब नहीं है कि वे धर्म परिवर्तन करने के लिये ऐसा करते हैं। धर्म परिवर्तन और विदेशी सहायता जब ये दो चीजें जुड़ जाती हैं तब हम इसको आपत्तिजनक मानते हैं और इसको रोकने का प्रयत्न करते हैं।

*564. [The questioner (Shri Abid Ali) was absent. For answer, vide col. 3804 infra.]

क्षेत्रों का अध्ययन करने के लिए विश्वविद्यालयों को अनुदान

*565. **श्री राजनारायण :** क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारत के विभिन्न विश्वविद्यालयों को विशेष क्षेत्रों का अध्ययन करने के लिये विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग और कतिपय विदेशी शिक्षा संस्थान अनुदान देते हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो ऐसे अनुदानों के वितरण का आधार क्या है और इस प्रकार के अध्ययन की उपलब्धियां क्या हैं ?

†[GRANTS TO THE UNIVERSITIES FOR CONDUCTING AREA STUDY

*565. **SHRI RAJNARAIN :** Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission and certain foreign educational institutions distribute grants to various Universities in India for conducting particular area study; and

(b) if so, what is the criterion of distribution of such grants and what have been the achievements of this type of study ?]

शिक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री भागवत झा झाजाव) : (क) विशेष क्षेत्रों का अध्ययन करने के लिये विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग विभिन्न विश्वविद्यालयों को अनुदान देता है। दो विश्वविद्यालयों को इस कार्य के लिए विदेशी संस्थानों से भी सहायता प्राप्त हुई है।

(ख) ऐसी प्रयोजनाओं के लिये विश्वविद्यालयों का चयन विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग द्वारा गठित सलाहकार समिति की सिफारिश पर जिन आधारों पर किया जाता है वे हैं : विश्वविद्यालयों की ऐसे अध्ययनों में रुचि; उनकी और अध्ययन क्षेत्रों में पारम्परिक निकटता; उनकी ऐसी प्रयोजनाओं पर काम करने की क्षमता; और इसी प्रकार के किये गये अध्ययनों और अनुसंधान कार्य की स्थिति।

सलाहकार समिति की रिपोर्ट विजिटिंग कमेटी के सामने प्रस्तुत की जाती है और विजिटिंग कमेटी की सिफारिश पर आयोग विचार करता है।

जहां तक कि विदेशी संस्थानों द्वारा दी गई सहायता का प्रश्न है, हर प्रस्ताव पर उसकी अर्हता के आधार पर विचार किया जाता है।

ऐसी प्रयोजनाओं के लिये विश्वविद्यालयों को 1966-67 में ही अनुदान दिया गया था।

†[] English translation.