

a distance of about a mile. When he became unconscious he was left on the way. One brother of the deceased, on coming to know of it, brought him home, where he died.

The investigation has been completed and a charge-sheet has been submitted against the three accused persons on September 6, 1968.

A conference of Chief Ministers was held in New Delhi on 19th May, 1968, to discuss among others the conditions of the Harijans. The Home Minister stressed that Administration should put its entire weight on the side of the weaker sections of the society so that their condition improves. It was agreed that in order to instill confidence among the Scheduled Castes, it was important that incidents involving caste Hindus and Scheduled Castes should be investigated with more than ordinary care and promptness and all possible efforts should be made to ensure that the offenders are brought before the courts of law in the shortest possible time. If necessary, special investigating teams should be set up so that the prosecution does not suffer on account of inadequate investigations.

PAK OR CHINESE HAND IN DISTURBANCES IN ASSAM/NAGALAND

◆378. SARDAR NARINDAR SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan or China have a hand, direct or indirect, in the disturbances in Assam or Nagaland; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y.B.CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Necessary measures to safeguard the security of the country have been taken and security forces are maintaining constant vigilance.

NATIONAL PHYSICAL EFFICIENCY DRIVE

809. SHRI THILLAI VILLAN: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state the details of the Scheme of National Physical Efficiency Drive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): A statement giving the details of the Scheme is enclosed.

STATEMENT

Details of the Scheme of National Physical Efficiency Drive

The National Physical Efficiency Drive was launched by the Government of India in 1959-60 to popularise the cult of Physical Fitness throughout the country and to arouse enthusiasm of the people for attaining higher standards of physical efficiency and achievement. The Drive is based on precise and carefully graded physical fitness tests drawn up separately for men and women of different age-groups. There are altogether 7 categories of tests each of which has 3 standards laid down from "moderately easy" to "fairly difficult". Fundamental physical qualities like speed, strength, ability, endurance and body balance have been kept in view while working out the batteries of Tests for the various categories.

2. There is no entry fee for participation in these physical efficiency tests and they are open to all the citizens of the country. The winners of these tests are awarded Certificates and "Star-pins" of the different categories (One-Star, Two-Star and Three-Star) according to the standards achieved by the winners.

3. The Drive is conducted by the State Governments, Union Territories and National agencies like Railway Sports Control Board, Post and Telegraph Spoils Control Board and the Central Schools Organisation generally during the months of October-November every year. In the remaining part of the country, the Drive is conducted during the month of January. The Drive has been gaining momentum since its inception. During the year 1967-68, approximately ten lakh persons are reported to have participated in the Drive.

4. In view of the National importance of these tests, the Government of India have instituted National Awards in Physical Efficiency for those persons recommended by the State Governments who attain proficiency of a very high order during the performances at the National Competition.

Copies of the brochure on National Physical Efficiency Drive are available in the Parliament Library which contains further details about the Drive.