

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: There is a formal aspect which is being considered. In fact all the help that had been needed was given earlier, and will be given now.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: In view of the facts and circumstances of the particular murder and also the political controversies that arose with regard to the possible motive behind this particular crime, may I know why the Government is not directly assuming the responsibility of conducting the investigation and taking it away from the hands of the Punjab authorities? What is there in the way? May I know why the Government did not act in this matter because it was not just a crime but it was a big thing that happened in the country? May I know why the Central Government only got associated with the investigation without responsibility for conducting it which is entrusted to the Punjab Government, over which also there is a controversy?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: It is the same question put in other words. I think the decision of the Central Government has been justified by the outcome of the results, that is, the help being made available and co-ordination of effort also, and we have got our Director of Intelligence to take over. Therefore, this was the best method and therefore it was found to be fully justified.

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH: Would it be possible to narrow down all the broad motives of the murder of Shri Pratap Singh Kairon to one central motive?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: I do not think I need reply to that.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know if the Government of India is satisfied with the progress that is being made in the extradition proceedings in Kathmandu because the reports are that in the last hearing of these very

important proceedings nobody on behalf of the Punjab Government was present?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: *Prima facie* the case that is going on in Kathmandu is not with regard to this case.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: The hon. Minister has rightly pointed out that motive cannot be isolated from the chain of events that culminate in an incident. Therefore, either the investigation is taken up as a whole by the Centre or not taken up at all. May I know why the Government are inhibited in taking up the investigation as a whole? I understand from his previous reply that they are inhibited because of a particular constitutional position that, law and order being a State subject, they cannot intervene. But may I inform the hon. Minister that in the U.S.A. where law and order is a State subject, when crimes have inter-State ramifications, as this crime has, they fall within the purview of the Federation? Therefore, would the Government reconsider their whole attitude in the light of this?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: The matter is so advanced already in respect of investigation as such and with all that has been discovered I do not think there is any real necessity for doing so.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

INCIDENTS IN AUROBINDO ASHRAM

{ SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA:
*129. { SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE:†
 { SHRI P. ABRAHAM;

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister asked him for making

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri A. B. Vajpayee.

an enquiry into the incidents which took place in Shri Aurobindo Ashram at Pondicherry;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been held; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what is the result of the enquiry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI): (a) The Prime Minister asked the Home Minister to look into the demand for making an enquiry into the incidents.

(b) and (c) Enquiry is in progress.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: May I know at what level the enquiry is being conducted and when the report is expected to be completed?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: An officer of the status of Joint Secretary in the Home Ministry is doing it. And about the date I cannot today say anything but it should not take much time; in a month or so it should be done.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: May I know whether the Joint Secretary has been given any terms of reference and, if so, what exactly are the terms of reference and whether they include the alleged connivance of the Pondicherry police?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: The terms of reference are:—

“(a) To enquire into and report on the causes and the course of incidents in Pondicherry on the 11th February, 1965 including the attack on the Aurobindo Ashram.”—

This includes what the hon. Member has in mind—

“(b) To suggest measures necessary for preventing the recurrence of such incidents.”

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: It is not a question of preventing any recurrence.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item (a) is so general that it includes what you have in mind.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: I have my own doubts. If the Joint Secretary has not been clearly asked to fix up the responsibility for the failure of the administration, how can he go out of his way and report on that matter?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: He cannot directly be asked to report on the failure but he will certainly take into account all the incidents that happened and why they happened, if they could have been prevented, why they were not prevented, etc. All these he will certainly look into; we have told him to look into.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY: Will he publish the Report when it is available, the Report of the enquiry?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: After we get the Report, we shall consider it.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY: Will you publish it?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: We will consider it.

SHRI A. D. MANI: May I ask the Minister why a District Judge was not asked to conduct this enquiry? Mr. Abraham who is one of those who has tabled this question made serious allegations against the Ashram in this House and he attributed a number of motives to the Ashram and also described the circumstances in which the attack took place. The attack on the Ashram has created very unfavourable international repercussions outside India. Why can't the Government even at this stage order a judicial enquiry instead of asking a Joint Secretary to go into this matter?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: So far as the offences that have been com-

mitted are concerned, I think about 46 persons are being prosecuted. So far as the judicial part is concerned, it will be taken care of. But here is a question; as Mr. Vajpayee said, it is more or less also an administrative matter and therefore we thought that an administrative officer would be better suited.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Has the Government received any interim Report in the matter or has the Government asked the authorities concerned to submit any interim Report?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: No, Sir.

श्री देवकीनन्दन नारायण : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि जो इनक्वायरी हो रही है, उसमें यह भी जांच होगी कि आश्रम का नुक्सान कितना हुआ और यदि नुक्सान पाया गया, तो सरकार उस नुक्सान की भरपाई में कुछ देने के लिये राजी है या नहीं ?

श्री जयसुखलाल हाथी : जहां तक पहली बात है, वह तो रिपोर्ट के आ जाने पर मालूम होगा कि सरकार राजी है या नहीं । वह तो इनक्वायरिंग आफिसर नहीं लिख सकेगा । वह सरकार ही सोचेगी ।

*130. [Withdrawn.]

MATTER PUBLISHED IN 'INDIAN OBSERVER' AND 'CONFIDENTIAL ADVISER'

*131. **PROF. SATYAVRATA SIDDHANTALANKAR:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the matter generally published in the columns of the "Indian Observer" and the "Confidential Adviser" published from Delhi; and

(b) whether Government have ascertained the effect of that matter on the morals of the teen-agers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) The Government are aware of the contents of these two journals.

(b) As the Government consider that some of the writings in these publications could adversely affect the morals of teen-agers, they are contemplating taking legal action against such publications.

प्रो० सत्यव्रत सिद्धान्तलंकार : क्या सरकार को यह मालूम है कि ये पत्र कब से प्रकाशित हो रहे हैं और ये पत्र इस गंध से शुरू से ही भरे हुए हैं ?

श्री ललित नारायण मिश्र : एक तो नया है, लेकिन वह एक जो साप्ताहिक है "इंडियन आबजर्वर", वह दो तीन साल से चल रहा है । उसको हम लोगों ने देखा है और उसपर हमने चिंता भी व्यक्त की है और कानूनी कार्यवाही भी की है । उस पर दिल्ली एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन की तरफ से दो मुकदमे भी चल रहे हैं । पंजाब सरकार भी कुछ मोच रही है । लेकिन बात यह है कि हमारे पास कानूनी अधिकार ऐसा नहीं है, जिस में कुछ किया जाये । इसीलिये हमने कहा है कि हम यह सोच रहे हैं कि ऐसा कानून बनाया जाये, जिस से उन पर रोक लग सके ।

श्री बिमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चोरड़िया :

क्या श्रीमान को यह ज्ञात है कि यह अखबार काफी असें से निकल रहा है और श्रीमान खुद भी उस के प्रकाशन में चिन्ता व्यक्त करते हैं, तो ऐसी स्थिति में जल्दी इसके बारे में कानूनी अधिकार ले कर के क्यों नहीं ऐसी कार्यवाही की जाती है जिस से समाज में ऐसा गलत प्रचार करने वाले अखबारों पर प्रतिबन्ध लग सके ?