

Manipur as Backward Region

5270. SHRI NGANGOM MOHENDRA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether entire Manipur comes under the category of Backward Region; and

(b) whether the Meiteis as a community comes under the category of Backward classes?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI N. D. TIWARI: (a) Government of India does not categorise the States/regions of the country into backward or otherwise. However, Manipur along with the States like Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura & Sikkim, is treated as a Special Category State for purposes of Central assistance. On account of its limited resources, the bulk of its Plan outlay is financed through Central Assistance. The Central Assistance for Manipur is in the form of 90 per cent grant and 10 per cent loan, against the general pattern of 70 per cent loan and 30 per cent grant applicable to all the non-Special Category States and the two Special Category States—Assam and Jammu & Kashmir. The pattern of Central assistance in case of Hill areas of Assam and Ladakh in Jammu & Kashmir however is 90 per cent grant and 10 per cent loan.

(b) The categorisation of communities as backward classes is within the purview of the State Government. According to available information 'Meiteis' community has not been categorised as a backward class by the Government of Manipur.

News Item "Barpeta tense after kidnap of Cops"

5271. SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: Will the Minister of HOME MINISTER be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item in "Sunday Standard" dated the

29th June, 1980 under the caption "Barpeta tense after kidnap of cops"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the Government of Assam, on 27th June, 1980 at about 2100 hrs., an Asstt. Sub-Inspector of Police with five Armed Branch Constables and two unarmed Branch constables went to Kherapara (Bhella) under Barpeta PS of Kamrup for investigation of a murder case. About 2,000 persons of Kherapara and neighbouring villages armed with deadly weapons attacked them. Two constables who had fallen behind the main police party were wrongfully confined and assaulted by the mob. When the rifle of an Armed Branch Constable was attempted to be snatched by the mob, he fired two rounds in air. The main police party also fired five rounds in the air to scare away the mob. In the meantime, on receipt of information the Officer Incharge, Barpeta Police Station. Addl. S.P; Barpeta and Sub-Divisional Officer reached the spot with reinforcement. 61 accused persons were arrested and a large number of lethal weapons such as pointed sticks, spears, daos. Iron rods, Ballams etc. were seized. Some members of the mob in the meantime set fire to three houses, of which two were completely damaged. Barpeta police have registered a case and Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup has ordered a magisterial enquiry into the incident.

Fishing and Export of Prawns

5272. SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that on the West Coast of Maharashtra fishing of prawns is done in plenty and is exported worth crores;