

[*Sh. Vishwanath Pratap Singh*]

- (c) to study the methods employed to generate black money and the channels through which the concealed income is invested and spent in other ways;
- (d) the methods employed to convert black money into white money.
- (e) to attempt a broad estimate of the volume of black money generated; and
- (f) to undertake any regional or sectoral surveys that may be required in connection with the above.

The Institute submitted its report in March, 1985. The report was released to the Press in June, 1985, for encouraging a public debate on the subject so that the consequential suggestions could be considered for drawing up a "Long Term Fiscal policy". I am placing a copy (both in Hindi and in English versions) of summary of the Report on the Table of the House. Copies of the Report (In English version and 2 typed copies in Hindi version) have been placed in the Parliament Library.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Baisrhat): Sir, copies of this Report may be made available to those Members who are interested in it. It costs Rs. 100/- if we buy from outside.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I will make it available to all the hon. Members.

12.57 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

[*English*]

Armed Clashes on Assam-Nagaland Border between Assam Police and Nagaland Police

SHRI LALIT MAKEN (South Delhi): I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:-

"The situation arising out of the recent armed clashes on Assam-Nagaland border between the Assam Police and the Nagaland Police resulting in heavy loss of life and property and the action taken by the Government in regard thereto."

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): Sir, Unfortunately, between 4th and 6th June 1985 armed clashes took place in the Merapani area along Assam-Nagaland border between the Assam Police and the Nagaland Police.

As the Hon'ble Members are aware, there has been long-standing territorial dispute between Assam and Nagaland in connection with the boundary between the two States as defined in the State of Nagaland Act 1962. Govt. of India had taken steps to assist the two State Governments to reach an amicable settlement of these disputes. In August 1971 an Adviser was appointed in the Home Ministry and through his good offices, four interim agreements were signed by these to State Governments in March 1972. The Adviser carried out detailed study of the various aspects of the problem and made certain recommendations to the State Governments. Unfortunately, no agreement could be reached between the two State Governments to resolve the dispute on a permanent basis. The Adviser demitted office in 1976. Thereafter, from time to time steps were taken by the Central Government to advise the two State Governments to enforce the interim agreements of 1972 in letter and spirit and to continue efforts to resolve the dispute through discussions.

Early this year in the month of February, there was a serious incident in which six labourers working for Forest Department of Assam were killed. Certain amount of tension had built up in the area in which the incident had taken place. On 28th March 1985 I held a meeting with the Chief Ministers of Assam and Nagaland at Shillong and stressed the need to resolve the border dispute amicably and to ensure that clashes on the border do not recur. Both the Chief Ministers had assured me that they would sort out the issues and ensure

that clashes do not recur. Unfortunately, despite their assurance, certain degree of tension was built up in the Merapani sector and there was a brief exchange of fire between the patrols of the two State Governments Police Force on 28th May, 1985. Immediately on receipt of the information about the incident, I sent wireless message to the two Chief Ministers which was repeated to the respective Governors expressing my grave concern at the incident and requesting them to take steps at once to prevent recurrence of such incident. The two sides were asked to end the situation of confrontation which seemed to be prevailing. It was decided to hold a meeting of the Commissioners and IGPs of the two States at Dimapur on 3rd and 4th June, 1985. A representative of the Home Ministry was asked to join the deliberations and he did so on 4th June. Unfortunately, it seems that as the meeting was in progress heavy firing broke out between a number of posts of Assam Police and Nagaland Police confronting each other in the Merapani area. Despite efforts of the Home Ministry's representative, ceasefire could not be effected on the ground. Immediately on receipt of the information, I urged the two Chief Ministers to immediately effect ceasefire, if possible, visit the border personally and take all steps to end confrontation forthwith.

Following a meeting between the senior Police and Civil officers of the two States on 6th afternoon, effective ceasefire was enforced from the evening of that date. Next day i.e., on 7th June, the two Chief Ministers met in the presence of the Governor of Nagaland. They agreed to maintain and fully enforce the ceasefire. They also agreed to the induction of a neutral force and to restore status quo ante by the police forces of both the States going back to the positions before the current series of incidents. Both the Chief Ministers also agreed to continue to hold talks for a long-term solution to the problem of disputed area and to ensure that a perfect understanding and amity is maintained between the two States. They also gave certain directions to their respective officials in regard to the posts that had been established in violation of the 1972 agreement.

As agreed between the two Chief Ministers, the Central Government arranged to move Assam Rifles into the affected area on 8th June. This force was subsequently replaced by BSF as proposed by the two Chief Ministers. Two senior officers of the Ministry were immediately despatched to make on the spot assessment of the situation and to suggest further measures for the maintenance of law and order and also to furnish a preliminary report into the incident. My colleague Smt. Ram Dulari Sinha also visited Merapani on 10th June, 1985. She also held discussions with the two Chief Ministers. The two Chief Ministers also held a meeting on the same date at Merapani and reviewed the steps taken by the two Administrations pursuant to their agreement at Imphal. I also held discussions with the two Chief Ministers. Meetings with the Chief Secretaries and DGPs of the two States were held by the Union Home Secretary on 17th and 19th June and a number of steps decided upon in these meetings to defuse the situation as also to arrange for speedy rehabilitation of those affected by the disturbances.

These meetings were followed by subsequent meetings between the Commissioners and DIGs of both the State Governments on 30th June in the presence of a representative of the Ministry of Home Affairs. On 10th July, Union Home Secretary reviewed the implementation of the various agreements in a meeting of the two Chief Secretaries and senior police officers held at Gauhati.

As a result of the various steps taken the situation at Merapani is fast returning to normal. Most of the people who had left the area because of the disturbances, have gone back to their respective places. For purposes of grant of relief and rehabilitation, the Central Government have given an advance of Rs. 50 lakhs to the State Government of Assam pending assessment by a Central Team of the quantum of the Central assistance required. A detailed proposal was recently received from the State Government and a Central Team has been sent to Assam.

In these clashes 28 policeman from Assam and 6 from Nagaland were killed

[*Sh. S.B. Chavan*]

A number of police personnel were injured. 13 civilians also lost their lives. About 32,000 people were displaced. In the view of the Central Government, these clashes between the Police Forces of the two States are most unfortunate and distressing. We are very much concerned that such armed clashes should have taken place at all. We are determined to see that there is no repetition of such unfortunate incidents. The Government have decided to appoint a Commission of Inquiry under the Commission of Inquiry Act 1952 to fully go into the facts pertaining to these clashes and to probe into the conduct of the officials of the two States and also to fix the responsibility.

We are also keen that these long-standing border dispute should be resolved through discussions and consultations. To that end we are currently holding consultations with the Chief Ministers of the two States with a view to working out a modality towards finding a permanent solution to the dispute.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will continue this after Lunch.

13.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Armed clashes on Assam—Nagaland Border between Assam Police and Nagaland Police—contd.

[*Translation*]

SHRI LALIT MAKEN (South Delhi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in a clash between the Nagaland Police and the Assam Police, a number of persons were killed. This is an unusual situation. Outwardly, it does not appear to be a border dispute between the two States but a conflict between two countries. The way the firing was exchanged there, people were killed and bombs were hurled, it seems that

it is not a clash between States but a conflict between two nations, *i.e.*, India and Pakistan or India and China.

The dispute is not fresh, but a long-standing one. The first clash took place in 1972 in which not only firing took place but mortars and stenguns were also used. A number of persons were killed at that time.

In the year 1979, some people of one of the States came shouting and attacked a village in which 180 persons were killed. After this on 5th and 6th June, 1985 probably four of our officers were killed by them. Instead of resolving the matter through talks, under their very nose firing took place on 5th and 6th June and about 35 persons were killed and 200 persons were injured.

After this, as the hon. Home Minister has stated, an agreement was reached on 7th June that this firing will be stopped but it is a matter of surprise that on the 8th June, the next day, after exactly 24 hours, 150 houses were set on fire and about 50,000 people had to flee abandoning their homes.

Probably the Chief Ministers of concerned States were called to Delhi and talks were held. It appeared as if the matter would be resolved and there would not be any further bloodshed, but on 9th July again, three houses were set on fire.

The most question is who is responsible for it? It is very strange, as we have read in the newspapers that the Police of one of the States entered 200 meters inside the territory of the other State and established a police-post and put up a wire fencing there. I would like to know who gave them the permission for setting up police post? Did they establish the police-post and put up the wire fencing on their own or did some leader, officer or Minister tell them to do so? Who asked them to set up a police post there.

The Government of the other State, in whose territory the police post was set up, instead of taking up the matter with the concerned State, ordered the demolition of the police post. All these things are happening in a way as if the people of China had entered our territory and