

country—whether in Assembly election in Gujarat or the next Parliament election—Government must come out with a proposal under which election expenses of the recognised political parties, whatever provisions they may make, must be met by the exchequer. The provision for printing posters should be made and also for designs. Arrangement for everything should be settled by the Commission. Same is the case with election expenses also. It this is done, I feel that we can put an end to the corruption.

Sir, lastly, I would like to submit, without going into any other argument, one thing to what Shri Janeshwar Mishra has said

My other submission is that now in our country, if you consider the role of the private sector and the public sector, it will be unwise to say that black-money is only applied in private sector and not public sector. Take the example of coal mines. The whole of coal mines authority, I think, is going to be collapsed and also the steel authority due to the inflow of black-money from the private sector to the officials of the coal mines management. I throw it a challenge and suggest a Committee may be immediately appointed by the Government to go into the assets of those who were earlier on the pay-role of the private management before take over in the Asansol-Ramganj area and now on the pay-role of the coal mines authority. You will find their assets have increased ten times. They are looting the money like anything. Without paying bribe and without paying money you cannot get the things done. I do want the Minister should protect the interest of the honest officers but there is no reason why the corrupt officers be protected.

There is no provision in law whereby Birlas and Tatas are required to go into jail. Such persons should be hanged immediately. They have looted the country and are still collapsing the nation and the Government is just telling them to be good citizens. Apart from this Bill and apart from other measures we want the Government

to take drastic measures otherwise the whole people of this country without having any political affiliation—should once again generate their force to launch a serious mass upsurge from which even the police and the military would not be able to protect their lives and they should be lynched.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): The hon Member has thrown a challenge to the Government. I would like to assure him it is not our intention to protect and shelter any officer who is corrupt. If the hon. Member has any material I would be happy if he sends the same over to us.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI I am saying you immediately appoint a Committee by the Government. If I cannot prove these officers have more than doubled their properties I will resign from the House. They are thieves.

SHRI B V NAIK (Kanara) Mr Chairman Sir, since there is hardly half-a-minute

MR CHAIRMAN: Now, we take up Half-an-Hour discussion. You may continue your speech tomorrow.

17.30 hrs.

#### HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

##### DELHI SCHOOL TEACHERS CO-OPERATIVE HOUSE BUILDING SOCIETY

MR CHAIRMAN Now, we shall take up the half-an-hour discussion regarding Delhi School Teachers Co-operating House Building Society Limited, Delhi

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA (Madhubani): Mr. Chairman, Sir, before I begin my speech, I would request you to give me a patient hearing for a few minutes because it is a very important subject, which affects the teachers who are examples of poverty.

The co-operative societies, as their name itself implies, stand for doing and undertaking such acts as may

[Shri Jagannath Mishra]

result in non-discriminatory and equal benefits to all associated with them through a few persons chosen out of the general mass, but here is a society called by the name of Delhi School Teachers Co-operative House Building Society Ltd., which has been brought nigh its doom by the mala fide acts of the very persons to whom the task of piloting its affairs was entrusted.

I hope that the House would have by now come to know sufficiently about the affairs of this Society through a number of questions asked and answered on the floor of the House. Sir, at the outset, I may plainly make it clear that my sole motive for tabling this discussion is not to vilify anybody but it is the sincere intention to earn justice for the many innocent members who came into the fold of this society by investing their hard earned money, and especially when they got exasperated due to the absence of any concrete outcome.

This society was initially registered with the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Delhi, in 1961. I understand that Government, as a token of regard for the community of the teachers as a whole, and in consideration of the services rendered by them to the society, had helped them in securing a notified land measuring 150 acres, which was, however, later on, reduced to 90 acres as it stands now.

The remaining 60 acres of land which was originally purchased by the society could not be placed at the disposal of the society because of the non-depositing of the required amount which was mainly due to the lapse on the part of the then persons controlling the affairs of the society. This land has still not been earmarked for any purpose, and as such it can be made available to the society for ensuring a plot to each and every member who has so long patiently pinned his destiny with the society.

As I have already pointed out, the reason for the doom of the society is the misdoings of the so-called office-bearers of the society. Forgetting all canons of morality and the trusteeship reposed in them by the general body of the society, these office-bearers fell out among themselves with the result that the sacred records of the society did not remain centred in the proper hands.

Sir, according to the rules, the accounts of every society should be audited annually consequent to which fresh elections of office-bearer should take place so that if during the course of the auditing of the accounts, some lapses come to light, the concerned persons may be held responsible for them and may get drubbing for their misdeeds.

This irregularity not only continued but was further deepened as since 1966 no auditing of accounts was done and the regular annual feature of electing the office-bearer was not gone through.

Round about 1967, the society was required to deposit the balance amount of money with the Government as cost of the land. The society finding itself in a tight corner, having been left with no fluid money, and also finding no chance of realising any instalment from the then members, as the repeated calls on them to make such deposits did not bear any result, enrolled some new members, both teachers and non-teachers. The non-teachers were enrolled by the society as per the general practice of enrolling members from groups other than those stipulated in the bye-laws such as professionals and other service classes. In fact, the necessary amendment to the bye-laws was also understood to be made and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies informed in 1962 itself.

The non-teachers were assured in unequivocal terms that the society had obtained due authorisation from the Government for their enrolment and



that there was also sufficient land for their accommodation in the society.

The affairs of the society continued to be in doldrums and the members smacking some foul play as they were not kept apprised of the regular course of developments and the financial position of the society as per practice followed in all societies, started raising their voice with all the concerned authorities for securing justice to them. Realising the gravity of the situation, the registrar instituted an inquiry in March, 1972. But it is very tragic and unfortunate that the inquiry which should normally not have taken more than three months has not been completed so far. The main reason for the dragging on of the inquiry is the non-production of the records of the society by its so-called office-bearers to the inquiry officer.

But here I do not blame only the office bearers for concealing the records as they were tempted to make this concealment so as to cover up their misdeeds. But even the Government have not remained unscathed to perform their part of the duties to procure the records by going through due procedure of law. I am pained to know that the search warrants for securing the records of the society issued by the Registrar against some office-bearers were brought to their knowledge much in advance of the actual issue, giving chance to them to manipulate the affairs.

When inquiry could not produce any concrete result till March 1974 and the anxiety of the innocent members has been voiced both in and outside this House, the Government at long last issued a public notice on 2nd March 1974 through press and other agencies requesting the members to file affidavits in support of their membership to the Enquiry Officer till 30 April 1974. In response to this, 1405 affidavits have been filed. Since then, more than

three months have already elapsed and the list of members is yet to be finalised whereas the completion of the enquiry should not have taken more than three months.

As per the lay-out of the colony, there are only 1031 plots and as against this, the membership of the Society as per the affidavits received in the Registrar's Office comes to 1405. Now a very serious and honest responsibility lies on Government to ensure that justice is done to the innocent members who have invested their hard-earned money for periods ranging from 7 to 13 years in the sincere hope of getting a plot of land.

Non-production of records for over two years goes to prove sufficiently that the affairs of the Society have been in doldrums and the fate of the 1405 members cannot be kept in darkness and uncertainty any longer. The Government being the guardian of the people's welfare is required foremost to ensure justice to the affected persons and here is a chance keeping in view the fact that the membership of the Society is confined mostly to the persons of limited and narrow means when the Government can help them to realise their due share of plot of land.

In fact, Government should have quite sometime back taken the affairs of the Society into its own hands in order to straighten the affairs and the same which has not been done, should now be done and the affairs so arranged that each and every member is so assured a piece of land in the shortest possible time. It should not be difficult for the Government to assure a plot to each and every member by taking recourse to all possible means at their command. These means can be like revising the layout of the colony with a view to carve out more plots and by releasing the additional land which was originally earmarked for the society. Towards this direction, it is very important that the

[Shri Jagannath Mishra]

enquiry should be completed forthwith and the affairs taken over by Government, including the development of land, to do remedies suggested above

In view of all that I have narrated, the following questions arise and I would request the hon Minister to give specific and categorical replies to them

What are the main reasons responsible for delaying the report of the Enquiry Officer? What steps have been so far taken by the Enquiry Officer to extort the records of the Society from the recalcitrant members by taking recourse to the provision of law? Whether the non-production of records by the office-bearers for such a long time does not empower the Government to take over the affairs of the Society into their own hands to safeguard the interests of the members? If so, do the Government now propose to take over the affairs themselves forthwith? Is it a fact that a handsome amount of money was paid to the contractor engaged for development work in advance? If so the total amount paid in relation to the development work so far done by him? Since the number of plots to be carved out of the allotted land to the Society as per the approved plan falls much short of the total membership of the Society how do the Government propose to accommodate all the members? How many persons on the basis of the affidavits have called for refund of the deposits made by them with the Society and for cancellation of their membership? As the development cost of land is increasing day by day, do the Government propose to safeguard the interest of the members by entrusting the remaining development work to some Government agency like the DDA? Have the Government reconciled the deposits claimed to have been made by the members in their affidavits with the records of the society?

SHRI ARJUN SETHI (Bhadral):

After hearing the statement of my hon

friend Mishraji, everybody should be astonished to know how things are going on in this particular society. In a nutshell, I should like to ask the hon Minister one or two questions. According to the bylaws of the society elections to the managing committee should be held annually and its accounts should be audited every year by an auditor appointed by the Registrar of the Delhi Administration. Why has this audit not been done? If it was done what are the findings of the auditor? It is known that corruption and bungling were going on in this society. Why did not the Government take all necessary steps to ensure observance of the elections and auditing of the accounts of the society?

श्री सुलचन्द्र झांगा (पाली) • 1668

के बाद प्राज 1974 है मेहरबानी कर के आप यह बताइए कि आप के रजिस्ट्रार क्या नोट ले रहे हैं। या प्राणम से सो रहें हैं? उ। रजिस्ट्रार से आप पूछिए कि जो सोसाइटी के बाइ-लाज है उन का पालन नहीं हुआ इस के लिए जिम्मेदार कौन है? पहला प्रश्न यह है कि इन्होंने क्यों नहीं इन के जो बाइ-लाज बने हुए थे उन का पालन किया? कितना रुपया इकट्ठा किया? क्या कोई गुप्ता साहब थ जो ठेकेदार से मिल कर 9 लाख रुपया खा गए और वहां विकास हुआ ही नहीं? आप यह उत्तर दे दें कि एन्क्वायरी हो रही है। हम इस से सैटिस्फाई नहीं होगे। वहां क्या विकास हुआ? भूमि के डेवलपमेंट के लिए रुपया किस किस ने दिया, कितने भ्रादरमियो ने दिया? सोसाइटी में कितने मेम्बर्स की जम्मत थी? ये सोसाइटी को बदनम करने वाले जो लोग हैं? वे कौन हैं? कौन ठेकेदार बा? क्या वहां पर ड्रिनेज बन गई? रोड्स बन गई क्या रोड्स के ऊपर लाइट लग गई। के की एक व्यक्ति नाम के कौन व्यक्ति के उनका प्रोपर्टी क्लेम किया? पुलिस द्वारा हथकड़ियां लगाकर वह ठेकेदार को कबले बांधी करामा नया? इन गरीब टीचरों के जो कंधे जंभा हुए



[Shri Annasaheb P. Shinde]

terruptions). I do not know. The difficulty now is: how to proceed. Actually, I had written some letters to the Delhi Administration to see that the inquiry is expedited. They are sympathetic and the Lt. Governor himself was good enough to go into these matters and order that the inquiry should be expedited as early as possible.

18.00 hrs.

Now, it appears—though my figures may not be taken as final as the final accounts are not there—that about Rs 30–34 lakhs and not Rs. 9 lakhs seem to have been collected from the Members. Membership list is under dispute; the Audit Report is available of the year 1966-67; out of 1,300 so, about 600 are found to be common and the rest are under dispute. We should ask them to produce receipts, whether they have share certificates etc. All these things should be verified. General notice was issued. All these materials which are required are being collected. Rs. 12 lakhs had been paid to the Delhi authorities for the land. The contractor has admitted that he has received Rs. 22 lakhs and about Rs. 18 to Rs. 19 lakhs he has spent for development. These are matters requiring closer scrutiny and verification and the report should be available for us.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: About Rs. 20 to Rs. 35 lakhs were spent and may I know whether they were properly spent or not? Are you satisfied?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: Rs. 12 to Rs. 13 lakhs were paid for the land to DDA. This has gone to the authorities concerned. This is quite large chunk of land. Development amount is paid to the contractor. It is the contractor's admission that he has received Rs. 22 lakhs. But the unfortunate part of the story is this, namely, that the members are nowhere. No allotment of land has taken place. Nobody knows what is happening to their money. The whole

thing is in a state of confusion. As Mr. Naik knows cooperation is double-edged weapon. It can serve the purpose of the middle class and the poor if used properly. It can be an element of self-destruction if used badly, because of in-fighting and group-fighting etc. We have suggested to Delhi Administration that they must take immediate action in the matter and it will be seen that whatever has to be done to protect the interests of members is done.

As Mr. Naik knows, it would be difficult to take any decision unless proper records are there; we must know how much money was paid, to whom this has been paid etc. So, these accounts are being collected.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: Excuse me for interrupting you. Don't tell us about the records etc. We know that they are not available and you are trying to get them. But may I know whether this Rs. 21 lakhs, which the contractor has admitted he has received, has been properly spent or not. Have some engineers certified about the utilisation?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: We will ask the Enquiry Officer. We must have information.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: That means you have not yet asked.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: Have you visited the site? Have you seen it?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: I have not seen. I can understand the anxiety of hon. Members and I would respectfully say that everybody who has participated has made very good suggestions and they have very good intentions and the interests of middleclass person—I can tell the hon. Members that, as I have already stated, we have asked the Delhi Administration to enquire into the matter and give the report as

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of the Delhi Administration, no action was taken and I really do not know the cause because from the records it is not clear. There seems to be some politics involved in it as Mr. Pandey said. I do not want to name any political party because it is not right on my part. But it seems to be—it is not a very authentic information...

**SHRI B. V. NAIK:** We can guess which Party it is.

**SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE:** Two factions, it seems to me, were fighting in the society for leadership of the society and the party in power at that time failed to take any action and there was some delay. Later on, when the Delhi Administration took action and they issued a notice for supersession, the Society immediately filed a writ against the supersession and the ultimate result was that the supersession order had to be withdrawn for one reason or the other. Later on, it happened that...

**SHRI M. C. DAGA:** Was there a stay order?

**SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE:** A stay order was issued by the Court.

**SHRI M. C. DAGA:** What was the judgment of the Court?

**SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE:** Actually, the writ was withdrawn. There seem to be some other reasons for this. Later on, an inquiry was instituted, and the High Court gave some time limit. It has been mentioned here that the High Court actually said that some time should be given to the society. This is the order:

After hearing the Counsel, on 11th November, 1972 the High Court gave the following orders:

'After hearing the Counsel for the direct that the Society should further direct that the Society should fur-

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nish to the Enquiry Officer all the records available with it so that the proceedings before him could be expedited.'

The Court wanted the inquiry to be completed before 30th April, 1973. That appears reasonable. Later on, it was also decided that the Society should produce before the Inquiry Officer all the relevant information on a day to be fixed by the Inquiry Officer. The Court said:

"The Enquiry Officer will then complete the Enquiry, if possible, by 30th March, 1973."

Then, the whole history started. When this inquiry was started, no record was available. Now, how do we enquire as to who are the members and how the amounts have been spent? From whatever limited records that were available, proper links could not be established.

Now, there are important issues involved. Who are the Members of the Society? The difficulty is that there are no proper records maintained. Then, there is not a particular bank where the amount has been deposited. The information is that different groups have deposited amounts in different banks. So, it becomes very difficult for any government authority when proper records are not there and proper accounts are not maintained and proper membership register is not maintained. How can blame the administration?

**SHRI M. C. DAGA:** It is the duty of the Registrar of Co-operative Society to see that every year there is auditing done and the society has been performing its duty.

**SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE:** Now what happened is: searches were taken for securing the records. Now, unfortunately, the Secretary of the Society, whose house was searched, no records were found.... (In-



**Coop. House Bldg Society  
(HAH)**

[Shri R S Pandey]

contemplate to see that these kind of squabbles and disputes which are going on and which have created obstruction and hindrance are moved and their purpose is fulfilled so that they get their plots and the construction is started. Whatever wrong has been done by the Registrar or by the Accountant, by this or that person has got to be properly investigated.

May I suggest why not the entire thing be investigated by the DDA or by the Delhi Administration so that a proper inquiry is conducted and all those persons who are involved are brought to book? Something must be done in this respect. As Mr Daga said, a secret inquiry must be conducted. Those persons who have grabbed the money must be brought to book and proper punishment should be given to them so that in the name of cooperative society such cases where all these interested people who are involved in politics there do not occur.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN  
THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
(SHRI ANNASAHAB P SHINDE)**  
Mr Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to my colleague Shri Mishraji, who has raised this Half-An-Hour discussion on the floor of the august House. I also consider it to be a very important cause.

I entirely share the views of my hon friend, Shri Pandey ji, when he said that these are the middle-class people with limited means and that many of them must have invested their life-savings with the Society.

What seems to have happened is this. There seems to be a lot of misunderstanding as my hon friend, Shri Naik, said that there has been a lot of delay and why we are not taking any steps. The main difficulty in this case is that there seems to be, obviously, in-fighting amongst the members of the Society. It is true that the Society was registered in 1961. In the beginning normally

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when the Cooperative Societies came into being, there was no occasion for the Government to intervene. Naturally, it is the responsibility of the Delhi Administration. We come in only for explaining to the hon Members here. The Delhi Administration is responsible for looking after the interests of the cooperatives.

In this case, there was no occasion for the Delhi Administration to intervene so long as there was no complaint. The Society was formed and some land was allotted to them. These people being middle-class people have only limited means. Naturally, the Delhi Administration was sympathetic and they found some good land near Shahdara for the Society. What happened thereafter was that when some complaints came to the Delhi Administration, naturally, their accounts were audited. I have got the Audit Report with me. I do not want to take much time of the House in going into the details of it. The Audit Report is actually dated 17th October 1966. It showed that a lot of mal-practices were involved in this case. First of all, the registered membership of the Society was not very clear. The proper records were not maintained. Many persons who were not eligible for being registered as members were listed as members.

There were even some cases of defalcation or misappropriation. Even the accounts were not properly maintained. Actually, the Auditor himself suggested that one Mr Ram Prakash Gupta was advanced Rs 5 000 in 1961 on different dates for the purchase of stamps and other expenses and he kept this amount upto 11th May, 1965. A case of misappropriation has been sent to the S.P. Crime against him. This report showed that for the first time the Society's affairs were not in order.

Then, later on between 1966—1969, obviously there seems to be some delay involved because while some malpractices came to the notice

उसका क्या हुआ? कितने जगहों से रूपया लेना था, कितनी जमीन एलाट करनी थी? कितने-कितने दुकानों के प्लाट्स थे? कितने प्लाट्स एलाट किए जाने थे? कितना खर्च था? ऐडवर्टाइजमेंट क्या दिया? 1966 के बाद एक बार भी उसका आडिट नहीं हुआ, एक बार भी उस का ऐक्शन क्यों नहीं हुआ? रजिस्ट्रार ने एन्क्वायरी इस्टीमेट की तो कौन आफिसर बाजिम ने एन्क्वायरी की और रिपोर्ट उस न क्या दी? आज यह बताइए कि जो रूपया खा गए वह कितने थे? आज जमीन की कीमत कितनी बढ़ गई है और डेवलपमेंट चार्ज कितने बढ़ गए? क्या उनसे किसी भ्रातृ की जमीन मिलेगी तो कब तक मिलेगी क्या उस का रास्ता हलवा या वह जमीन बड़ी और पैसा भी गया? उन लोगों के खिलाफ जिन्होंने बाई लाज का घीब किया क्या ऐक्शन लिया? मे सिन्डे साहब से कहूँ कि ऐसा सख्त ऐक्शन लीजिए कि वे भी याद करे ।

SHRI B V NAIK (Kanara)  
Question No 2(a) ask "if not, the reasons for the delay" to which the answer is "as there has been no undue delay in the matter, the question does not arise" This case has been going on since 1967 till 1974 and the Minister comes and tells there has been no delay in the last eight years. Is this the way to get things done? There has certainly been delay I do not know of the extent of the fraud involved, though obviously this is a case of fraud What is the amount involved in the fraud? Is it Rs 9 lakhs, as has been stated by an hon Member? Secondly, why has it taken such a long period of time for retrieving the members' register? Shall I presume that all the other relevant documents and books of accounts in this institution are also extinguished?

Who is responsible for that? Thirdly, why is it necessary to have recourse to an affidavit, as in the case of freedom fighters or others who had been to jail and who cannot produce a certificate? A number of people will be having receipts in regard to whatever they have paid This is apparently a case where the Delhi Administration as well as the Ministry of Cooperation have not been able to look into it in depth and they have been trying to exonerate the delay involved Why cannot you suspend the management? If you find any official who is hand in glove with these people who are black-marketeers who are defrauding the public and also the poor school teachers you should give them the same treatment which you give to traitors, counterfeiters and blackmarketeers

SHRI R S PANDEY (Rajnandgaon) I have got the greatest sympathy for the teachers because they belong to a group which has got a small earning capacity In 1961 about 90 acres of land were allotted by the Government and 1,300 members who were teachers were enrolled Firstly, is it not a fact that there were two sections among the members, both belonging to the Jan Sangh who went on quarrelling, and that is why nothing has been done substantially in order to construct buildings and fulfill the purpose for which the land was allotted?

As I said at the very outset, they are the small people, the poor people, not small in the sense that they are small but small in the sense that they are getting very small salary Somehow or other they contributed their money, in order to have some roof over their head Their life-savings are involved Taking into consideration that their life-savings are involved I want to know what arrangement the Government is going to



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early as possible We will also try to see that there is proper Committee of Management and proper allotment of land is made thereafter so that those who have invested their life savings in the society would get their due

I do not think much would be lost The value the land has appreciated very much as compared to the year 1966 when the society was set up Of course, land is a very important thing After the Committee comes into being as a result of elections, I think it should be possible to protect by and large, the interests of the members of the society

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA  
 What do you propose to do with regard to the society itself?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE  
 There is no committee of management This is the only thing I can say As far as Union Department of

Cooperation is concerned, I can assure you that everything will be done to persuade the members to accept the advice

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA The point is that the money has been collected already The Minister must say something about the society which is the root cause of all evils Money has been collected by the society and so something should be said about the society

MR CHAIRMAN Have you anything to say?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE  
 No, Sir

18 07 hrs

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The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, August 13, 1974/Sravana 22, 1896 (Saka)