

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He may continue his speech when this subject is taken up next time.  
17.31 hrs.

### HALF AN HOUR DISCUSSION

#### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR MODERNISATION OF POLICE FORCE IN GUJARAT

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up the Half an Hour Discussion.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA (Bhavnagar). Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, sometime back I had seen a press report that the displaced Deputy Home Minister of Gujarat had disclosed that the Government of Gujarat had prepared a master plan for the modernisation of the police force and that they have forwarded it to the Central Government for financial assistance. I thought that this is a very important matter and I should seek some information from the Central Government. Therefore, I gave notice of my question. But the answer does not give any information nothing comes out from the answer. That is why I am raising this half an hour discussion.

Though the discussion relates to the modernisation of the police force of Gujarat, the issue involved is much larger and concerns all the States. The question is whether the time has not come when the police force requires immediate modernisation and overhauling. It has been reported on various occasions in the press that several States like Bihar, Assam and Maharashtra are considering this important problem. It is unfortunate that the Government of India is indifferent to this basic problem, the solution of which is very essential for maintaining peace in the country.

What has happened recently in Uttar Pradesh should not be forgotten. It should not be taken as a normal event or incident. The unrest and discontent of the police force in UP

ultimately resulted in the police mutiny. The civil administration there got completely paralysed and the popular government broke down. This was because of the carelessness and negligence on the part of the State Government and the indifferent attitude of the Union Government. The State Government failed to take the necessary steps to redress the grievances and remove the discontent of the police force in time and the Union Government also failed to assist the State Government.

The concept of modernisation should not be a narrow or limited one. The supply of modern equipments should not be the only concept of modernisation of the police force. The concept should be much broader and wider and should cover the humane aspect of the problem of the police force.

Therefore, a new comprehensive approach to the working of the entire police force is required. The Union Government should evolve a model master plan covering the modernisation inclusive of human aspects of the police force problems.

One Police Commission has come to some interesting conclusions. I would like to refer to it because these observations are of such nature that will apply to the State of Gujarat very much today. I quote the observations as reported by the *National Herald* dated 26th May, 1972. It says:

"The U.P. Police Commission... has come to the "irresistible" conclusion that "concealment of crime has been indulged in on an extensive scale" in the State.

The Commission observes that the crime statistics since Independence "bear on their face marks of unreality. Indeed, they run contrary to the experience of everybody, and their unreality does not need much

[Shri P. M. Mehta]

evidence to expose. They also run counter to the well-recognised fact that factors like urbanisation and industrialisation, disintegration of families, unrest among the younger section of the community, poverty amidst plenty and decaying standards of morality have been increasingly coming into play with their inevitable tendency to foster crime."

The Commission refers to interviews with police station officers and circle inspectors who have unanimously admitted before it that there is concealment and minimisation of crime at the police stations...."

Now, what are the reasons in extensive crime concealment? This relates to U.P. But exactly the same position prevails in my State of Gujarat. What are the reasons?

It further says:

"The Commission quote the testimony of the then Inspector General of Police, who said, "I am constrained to say that there is considerable political pressure at all levels and naturally this is having a most adverse effect on the morale, discipline and effectiveness of the police force."

The Commission feels that the Police Officers cannot fight political pressures but it is for the powers that be to lay down a self-denying ordinance for themselves. It observes, "The remedy against political and other extraneous influence upon the correct recording of reports, or for the matter of that, upon any other duties of the police does not really lie in the hands of the police. So long as these influences are allowed to operate and to carry with them the power to do good or evil to a police officer, it would not be possible for him to 'step to the path of duty...."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Member has talked almost 10 minutes.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA: I will just finish. This is a very important subject.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is taking so much time in lengthy quotations.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Because that is very important.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Then it should not be a Half-an-Hour Discussion. It should be a more full-fledged discussion.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA: I hope, the rebel Chief Minister of Gujarat will not allow anybody to exercise political influence on the working of the police force. The Union Government should also direct the Home Ministers of the States not to allow any extraneous pressure to work on the police service.

The police-public relation is another important point which more or less neglected. It requires a new orientation. The police should be trained and educative programmes are necessary to make them understand the mainstream of the society. The police must know to honour the civil rights of citizens and keep on the right side of law. Bogus arrests, illegal searches and fabrication of evidence must scrupulously be prevented.

Now, police is also a human being and one should not expect that the police will work as a machine. In Gujarat the ratio between area and police comes to 21.8 per sq. mile and the ratio between police and population comes to 15.2 per 10,000 population. Obviously, with this standard, you cannot expect efficiency and prompt service.

Another factor is the mobility of police. Today the mobility is at a very low level....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is more a discussion of what the police should be and how they should behave rather than financial assistance to Gujarat.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA: I am coming to that, Sir.

Adequate number of different types of vehicles is a basic requirement for the efficient working of the police department. They should also be provided with telephones in every police station and walkie-talkie equipment of the range of five miles in their vehicles. Their wage structure is also not adequate. Prices are going high and high since the last 1½ years. The rise in prices must be neutralised. In other words, their dearness allowance should be linked up with the cost of living index. Other facilities and amenities like good living conditions, recreational facilities, provision of cold drinking water and library are not luxuries today but are pre-conditions to the police for better service.

I would like to know from the Government the broad outline of Gujarat Master Plan which has been submitted to the Central Government for financial assistance, what would be the Union Government's assistance for implementation of this Master Plan, whether the Government of India propose to evolve any uniform minimum standard and propose to prepare the model Master Plan, and what action Government propose to take on matters like communication arrangements and mobility of police force, dog squads expansion, movie cameras and wireless equipment, number of policemen per sq. km. and population, adequate machinery to respond to public complaints and revision of pay scales and dearness allowance.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. P. G. Mavalankar. Only a question.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad): I will only ask a long question.

I am very glad that my friend, Mr. Prasannabhai Mehta has brought up this question for discussion in the House. I hope, the Minister of State, Shri K. C. Pant, will give an adequate answer to the question what exactly....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now 's' has been added to 'question'!

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: It will be only (a), (b), (c), (d).

I shall be extremely brief.

Since independence we have been finding that the police have to play an increasingly larger role in dealing with various public agitations, demonstrations, etc. All kinds of problems arise and the police are always in the picture. Therefore, how does public expect the police to behave and what is it that Government want to do in terms of modernisation which will enable the police force to behave in such a way that they really fit in with the modern conditions? Therefore, my questions are: what exactly is meant by 'modernisation and financial assistance, for what? Apart from salary structure, service conditions and security of service, housing and medical facilities to the Police people and their families, educational facilities, etc., are they really equipped in terms of their physical strength and their educational qualifications? What is more important is the psychological treatment to be given to the demonstrators and the public. How to deal with the crowd mentality? How to deal with demonstrators? Are the Police given education with regard to the psychological and social problems that crop up? Are the Police also trained in terms of modernisation because

[Shri P. G. Mavalankar]

money will be required even to train the instructors? How will the Police behave in terms of public co-operation? After all, they have to implement and enforce the law. They must see that law is not merely an instrument of coercion but it is also an instrument for seeking co-operation from the people. How are they equipped to seek more co-operation from the people? Is our Policeman also, in terms of modernisation, going to be trained and equipped in as far as he will be able to show himself up as a friend and guide to the people? In London, the London bobby is well-known as a friend and guide. Why not our Policemen behave in the same way? About humanitarian conditions, how much money is going to be spent in terms of making the Police also being treated as a humanitarian lot? I will only give one illustration to prove my point and sit down. Adequate money is not spent by the Central and the State Governments in this regard. For example, when election takes place for the Lok Sabha or for the Assembly, counting takes place for hours. I know, for I have recent personal experience. When counting of votes for the Parliamentary election in which I was a candidate took place it went on for hours and everybody including the counting officers were given tea and other refreshments. But the Policemen who were standing on duty for hours together were not given anything! When I asked the Magistrate on duty as to why should they not be given refreshments also, the reply was that there was no provision for it. Is it that a special law is required to enable the authorities to provide tea and refreshment to the Policemen on duty when such refreshments are already given to all other officers? I want to know whether you are not going to spend money for modernisation and for all these things?

श्री मूल चंद डाग (पाणी) २५/१२  
महोदय, मैं यह जाना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे देश में पुलिस द्वारा कान्मीजे व आफेसिज के जितने चालान किये जाते हैं, उन में से कितने परसेट मकसेस-फुल होने हैं। क्या मंत्री महं द० १९७२-७३ के बारे में ये आकड़े दे सकते हैं ?

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Look here, we are not discussing 'Police modernisation'. The question is: whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted a scheme to the Government of India and whether the Government of Gujarat has asked for financial assistance from the Government of India is the question. We are not discussing about the police organisation of the whole country.

MR M C DAGA: The question is not only that. The question is how to modernise the police.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, please. I will read out. 'Financial assistance for modernisation of the Police force in Gujarat'—this is the subject.

SHRI M C DAGA: How to modernise it?

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please make your questions shortly.

श्री मूल चंद डाग पुलिस में वीक्शन १०९  
मी० आर० पी० के तहत कितने चालान किये और उनका फल क्या निकला ? गुजरात में पुलिस को द्वारा जा चालान किये जाते हैं उन में से कितने परसेट मकसेस-फुल होने हैं—कितने रिपरसेट केमिज में कनविक्शन होता है ?

इसका मवाल — १०९ के अन्दर कितने चालान गजरात की पुलिस ने किये हैं और उनका क्या फल निकला है ।

१६४ के अन्दर एलिहेन्सल स्टेंटमेंट और एफ० आई० आर० पुलिस बनाती है, कितने ऑग्न एविडेन्स में आते हैं और कितने एफ० आई०

आई० धार० से घाते हैं? इससे मालूम हो जायेगा कि हमारी पुलिस 50 साल पहले की पुलिस है, सेवा-भावी पुलिस नहीं है, केवल जूलम करने, खीफ कायम करने और कमाने का साधन है।

श्री हुकम चम्ब कडवाव (मूरना) उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जब पुलिस इन्स्पेक्टर के लिए भरती होती है तो यह देखा जाता है कि किस पार्टी को सपोर्ट करता है। यदि कांग्रेस पार्टी को सपोर्ट करता है तो उसका सिलेक्शन हो जायेगा वरना नहीं होगा।

दूमरी बान —जब कोई किसी प्रकार का आन्दोलन होता है और जनता जब पुलिस के काबू में नहीं आती है तो ऊपर के अधिकारी आदेश देते हैं कि गोली चलाओ। गोली चलनी है तो बाद में मुकदमे पुलिस वालों पर चलते हैं, आदेश देने वालों पर नहीं चलते हैं। जिसने आदेश दिया है, उस पर केश चलना चाहिए।

आप जानते हैं कि अनेकों वर्षों से देश में एक हवा खड़ी हुई है कि पुलिस के लोगों को यूनिशन बनाने का अधिकार नहीं है। ऐसी स्थिति में अपनी 10 किम की समस्याओं को वह किम के सामने कहें। मैं भारत सरकार से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि पुलिस को अपनी यूनिशन बनाने का अधिकार दिया जाय। जब पुलिस के पिछले आन्दोलन को दबाया गया, उस समय क्या स्थिति पैदा हुई थी सेना और पुलिस की लड़ाई हुई थी मारी दुनिया के देशों में हमारी बेइज्जती हुई, हमें निचा देखना पड़ा। उन की समस्याओं को सुनने के लिए कोई महकमा बनाया जाय, जिम के सामने अपनी यूनिशन के माध्यम से बेअपनी बात कह सकें।

आज बढती हुई मंहवाई के अन्दर उन के जो बेतन स्तर हैं —आप बोडा उस की तरफ निगाह कीजिये। मेरा ऐसा अनुभव है कि आज की मंहवाई को देखते हुए उन को कम से कम

बेतन 1000 रुपये से कम नहीं होना चाहिए। यदि ऐसा हो जाये तो मेरा विश्वास है कि उन में भ्रष्टाचार नहीं रहेगा। भ्रष्टाचार का मूल कारण यही है कि उन की आमदनी उनकी तनखाह इतनी कम है कि उन का गुजारा नहीं हो सकता। सब उन के खिलाफ गाली बकते हैं पुलिस करप्ट है, रिश्तत लेती है, दस तरह की बात लोग करते हैं, लेकिन उन की जो वास्तविक समस्या है, उस पर विचार किया जाना चाहिए।

राजस्थान, गुजरात मध्य प्रदेश, उत्तर प्रदेश, —ये प्रांत आपम में एक दूसरे से लगे हुए इन के अन्दर डाकू समस्या अभी भी बनी हुई है। मैंने माननीय मंत्री जी को एक पत्र भी दिया था, जिस में सूझाव दिया कि उनको आधुनिकमिलन चाहिये जिस से वे इस प्रकार के सत्त्वों की दबाव में सफल हो।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in spite of your repeated warnings that the discussion was going beyond the scope of the subject which had been raised in the Half-an-hour Discussion, Members have raised several points which are really speaking outside the purview of this discussion. This is not a general debate on the police and it cannot be also a general debate on the Gujarat police because police is a State subject. And, any questions pertaining to Gujarat have to be asked in the Gujarat Assembly. Questions of the kind which Mr. Daga put are eminently suited for the Gujarat Assembly and if Gujarat Assembly Members get hold of these questions they will be benefited.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: The Report has been submitted by the Government to you.

SHRI K. C. PANT: There is no report. There is a master plan for the development of police force. It does not contain how many people have been arrested and challenged etc., etc. I am only saying that you

[Shri K. C. Pant]  
would be doing a service if the question is passed on to the Gujarat M.L.As.

Then, Mr. Kachwai said that the Police Inspectors are appointed by the Congressmen. This kind of baseless remark is not going to throw any light on this complicated subject.

The questions raised by Shri Mehta is limited in scope. But, I would like to assure him that even while I shall confine myself to his State, I shall give him the details which he has asked for in relation to the All India picture as well as Gujarat. He asked about the modernisation of police force and wanted to know if the time had not come to modernise the police force in the whole country. He stated gratuitously that the Government of India was indifferent. This was rather uncalled for. If he had cared to study the problem he would have seen that even though police is a State subject the Government of India has been helping all the State Governments in the matter of modernisation of their police forces.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA: My observation was derived from the answer given by the Deputy Minister for Home Affairs to my question. That is my clarification on it.

SHRI K. C. PANT: You know every question, when it is answered, we give other answers. I am sure you are aware of the attempt made during the last few years in assisting the States in modernisation of the police forces. There again, he says that the concept of modernisation should not be very narrow and that it should cover the human aspect.

Now, this is a subject which, of course, has many ramifications and training is involved. This is a subject which comes directly within the purview of the States. If the State Government wants, we do help them

in the matter of providing necessary facilities like providing the policemen with houses. I shall give you some details subsequently.

Then, Sir, he wanted us to prepare a master plan. We cannot prepare such a master plan. It is for the State Governments to prepare the master plan. We have asked them to prepare their master plans and in fact, after we receive them, subject to the utilisation of funds that have been given to them in the past, we shall make fresh allocations to them. So, we feel that, in this matter, the State Governments are in the best position to know exactly how they would like their police forces to develop what their peculiar problems or what the peculiar features of their developmental programmes should be. For instance, in M.P. to which Shri Kachwai just referred—he referred to the dacoity problems—there is a dacoity problem. This problem, till recently, was one of the big problems. The police force had to be, particularly, tailored to meet that kind of problem in one area of M.P. We would do it knowing the requirements of the State.

Now, Shri Mavalankar raised the point of salaries etc., etc. in passing. I would only remind him that the salaries and other facilities or perquisites to policemen are matters for the State Governments to decide. He also referred to the social and psychological problems. That is a big problem. I will not be able to deal with it in a few minutes. But, I accept its importance and I would like to tell him that one of the important committees which has been set up recently is the Committee of Police Training. That was because we felt that the outlook of the policemen, their attitude to the general public, their attitude to agitations etc. and their entire approaches should be in consonance with democra-

tic structure and in consonance with our changing socio-economic situation.

So, we appointed a well known sociologist, Prof. M. S. Goray to be the chairman of this committee. This committee has submitted its report, and we would like to implement the recommendations as and when they are processed. We are not waiting till the end so that all are processed, but as they are processed, we are implementing them. So, I accept the point, and this is what we have concretely done in that direction.

18 hrs.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad): What about unions of policemen?

SHRI K. C. PANT: Some State Governments are allowing some kinds of unions, usually with constitutions which are approved of by the State Governments themselves. So, this again differs from State to State and there is no uniform situation today.

Regarding modernisation, the scheme that we have at the Centre was started in 1969-70. This scheme is on the basis of 75 per cent loan and 25 per cent grant-in-aid, and it was to give an impetus to the States in the direction of modernisation of their police forces and in respect of expenditure of a non-recurring nature on items, some of which were mentioned here, but some of which I can elaborate also, like data-processing machines for crime records and so on, buildings and equipment for forensic science laboratories, equipment for fingerprint bureaux, equipment for centres for examination of questioned documents, wireless equipment, communication facilities equipment for training institutions, and mobility, that is, provision of vehicles etc. I have had occasion to place this before the House in the past also. I would like to repeat that this sche-

me has been functioning now for three or four years, and within the limitation of resources, we have tried to be helpful to all the States.

The areas which I have mentioned just now are specific and are designed mainly to improve the mobility and communication of the police forces and to modernise it in its scientific and technological capability. This, in short, is the objective.

The Gujarat Government has already been allotted a sum of Rs. 84.75 lakhs under this scheme, including allocations for 1973-74, but since we have not received a report on the utilisation of past allocations, we have not yet released the current years allocation of Rs. 32 lakhs.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Now, he will get the report because the in-fighting is over and a very able and administratively capable Chief Minister has taken over.

SHRI K. C. PANT: I am glad that that the Chief Minister has so many admirers. But admirations from unexpected quarters makes me suspicious.

This is the broad outline of past assistance, and the current year's assistance, subject to our getting the utilisation certificate, would be Rs. 32 lakhs. During the current financial year, the total budget allocation was Rs. 8 crores. But due to financial stringency, this year, a cut has been applied by the Ministry of Finance, and I understand that this year we shall only get Rs. 6.5 crores for this scheme. But I may tell my hon. friends that as far as my recollection goes, the allocation has been increased generously by the Ministry of Finance in the last few years; it used to be Rs. 1 crore, but it was raised to Rs. 7 crores, and during the last two or three years, it was Rs. 7 crores and then Rs. 8 crores etc.



[Shri K C Pant]  
and now if they apply the cut in the present stringency, I cannot really complain

But seeing the necessity, I wish we could get more funds and utilise these funds well, I am sure the States would take full advantage of these funds. But seeing the present situation, we cannot really press for more than the Ministry of Finance will allow.

I have already indicated the figure of Rs 32 lakhs. Apart from the financial assistance referred to above, the Central Government procure jeeps for State Governments. They arrange supplies of wireless equipment for communication purposes. They also import certain sophisticated items for the State forensic science laboratories. The value of the articles made available to the Government of Gujarat till 31st March, 1973 are 40 jeeps costing Rs 9.5 lakhs, wireless equipment of the value of Rs 18 lakhs, equipment for the State forensic science laboratory Rs 3.3 lakhs. During 1973-74, it is intended to procure for the Government of Gujarat 34 jeeps and wireless equipment worth Rs 15 lakhs. The payment for this is of course to be made out of the amount available under the modernisation scheme.

As for the Master Plan to which reference was made by Shri Mehta when the States were asked to prepare these Master plans, it was really to help them take a total view of their developmental plans. But so far as the Centre is concerned, it was made clear to them that we cannot assist for recurring expenditure, it would have to be non-recurring expenditure which fits into the overall scheme that I already mentioned.

Secondly, Central assistance should be used by the State Governments only for the purchase of new equipment not already available within the

State police and should not be diverted for the purchase of equipment in replacement of existing equipment. Otherwise, the whole process of modernisation would be slowed down and obsolescence would increase.

Then these primary responsibility, as I mentioned earlier, for equipping the police force in various States is that of the State Governments. Therefore, we advise State Governments that while we would make this money available, they should not reduce the allocations in their own budgets. Otherwise, the purpose of the total amount being spent on modernisation of the police forces and of providing facilities to policemen etc. would be lost. We would be paying on something, they would be scaling down their allocations and the net result would be that the total amount would be less by so much. This is a burden which the State Governments would also have to bear.

SHRI P G MAVALANKAR: Is Central assistance based on a fixed percentage or does it go by the merit of each State's master plan?

SHRI K C PANT: The Master plan is a recent innovation. In the past we have roughly divided the amounts. I have got the total amount for each State. I have given it to Parliament also in the past. Now we go on how much they have been able to spend, which is a very good criterion. The State Government has to ensure that all the equipment received or procured by them by availing of Central assistance under the modernisation scheme is properly utilised within time.

These are the conditions broadly, if you call them conditions, or advice, if you like, which we gave to State Governments while asking them to prepare these master plans, and we are trying to ensure that in the next three to four years also, we shall be able to give the order of assistance



which we have been giving in the past. But that would be subject to the availability of resources.

The Master Plan submitted by the Government of Gujarat was estimated to cost about Rs. 2 crores. Now it includes provision for various items. I need not go into details. But it did not contain provision for certain items which we thought were important and we had advised the State Government that they should also include these items within their scheme so that if these items fell within the purview of our modernisation scheme, we could help Gujarat so much more.

Therefore our attitude is one of helping the State Governments to the maximum extent possible.

श्री हुकमचन्द कछवाय : केन्द्रीय सरकार को वन बेन एक हजार खपा देना चाहिए ।

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र वन्त : अगर पुलिस का बेलन केन्द्रीय सरकार देने लगेगी, तो राज्य सरकार के पास क्या रहवा ? राज्य सरकार की पुलिस है । आप के खिलाफ कार्यवाही करने की सारी जिम्मेदारी हमारी ही क्यों हो ?

Sir, some reference was made to the other assistance which has been given by the Centre. In a general way, we have taken various steps, and if I outline these steps you will see in what extent the Centre has created facilities which are significant not only for the development of the police forces and the utilisation of science and technology by the Central police forces but by the State also. For instance, three forensic science laboratories have been set up at Calcutta, Hyderabad and Delhi, and these assist the States also in the investigation of crime. Offices of the Government Examiner of Questioned Documents have been established at Calcutta, Hyderabad and Simla. A Bureau of Police Research and Development was set up in 1970. Then an Institute

of Criminology and Forensic Sciences has been established to train the State police officers. A Directorate of Police Training has been set up in the Bureau of Police Research and Development again to assist the States in the day-to-day problems of training the police personnel. This is what Shri Mavalankar referred to. Standing Advisory Committees on Forensic Sciences and various others subjects of police interests have been set up. Then, we organise the conferences of IGPs and DIG (CIDs) every year. Then, proposals are under consideration to set up a Central Traffic Institute to train police personnel in all aspects of traffic control and also institutes called Medico-Legal Institutes to train medical officers of the States in matters like post-mortem, etc.

Reference was made to the treatment of agitators. Generally speaking, we always advise the policemen not to have a confrontation with agitators to avoid unnecessary use of force, and to be as polite and courteous as they can to the leaders of the various political parties who may be involved. But in spite of that, sometimes when violence takes place then certain consequences follow. But I think if we in the House can agree also to see that that does not happen, then only the policemen, can discharge their duties without coming in direct confrontation with the agitators. I do not think any policeman welcomes a confrontation but he is sometimes driven into a position where, in order to maintain law and order, he has no option but to get into confrontation with public men or other agitators who are in position.

Then, I mention the assistance given by the Centre for police housing. It is 100 per cent loan assistance and it is for residential houses for non-gazetted police personnel in the States. This was introduced in 1956-57 and initially we expected the States to

[Shri Krishan Chandra Pant]

give the matching fund. In fact, that was the basis on which the scheme was prepared. But later on when we found the States were having difficulties, we have done away with the matching fund idea, and so the amount made available to the States till 31-3-73 under the police housing scheme is Rs. 50.74 crores. The budget allocation for 1973-74 is Rs. 4.5 crores making a grand total of Rs. 55.24 crores. This includes a sum of Rs. 216.22 lakhs made available to the Government of Gujarat till 31-3-1973. The allocation for Gujarat for 1973-74 is Rs. 30 lakhs, out of which 50 per cent has already been released in favour of the State Government. In spite of that I know there is a shortage of police housing. I am well aware of the fact, but different States have put in different degrees of efforts to resolve this problem.

We can only assist and help the States in overcoming the problem. We cannot substitute the efforts of the States in this direction. This is the broad picture. I have full details, full break ups, but I do not want to take up the time of the House in giving further details.

The only point I should make is that whatever we do from here been however much we try within the limitations of the Centre's resources

to help the States in the modernisation of the Police force and giving more facilities to police-stations in overcoming their grievances of which we are sensitive, we cannot possibly do everything quickly. Nor can we do anything more than supplement the effort of the States in this direction. I would only hope that with the facts and figures which I have given, the House will appreciate that the Centre has not been rigidly in this respect and the Centre has been taking positive steps both in respect of modernisation of the police force and in assisting them in the resolution of the housing problem in the States. If the States also put in the necessary effort, I am sure, they are trying to do their best, then we can overcome this problem and we can help to remove the other grievances, genuine and legitimate grievances, of the police-men wherever they are without their having to feel that they are neglected, without any kind of agitation coming up. It is the duty of the Government to look into these problems and both the State Governments and the Central Government are trying their best to look into the problems of police personnel in particular at the States.

18 17 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, August 6, 1973/Sravana 15, 1895 (Saka)