

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT : You should not ask for the source. You should go by the information given. We have no evidence.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : I would like to clarify what we do not depend on the FBI for our information. We have our own sources of information. But we also get information which is given to us by the FBI and other agencies according to the relationship that we have with them.

[Translation]

DR. B.L. SAILESH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, have the Government tried to find out whether Pakistan and China have a hand in the disappearance of our A.N 32 aeroplane in that area? What is the truth about this matter?

[English]

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT : This question is not related to this Ministry.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : I would say that whether it is FBI, China or Pakistan, we must take all of them seriously and we must go in detail. Camper in his Panthouse article has specifically given the names of Guru Bachchan Singh and three others—I will produce it to the Hon. Minister. He has specifically said that they are taking education in Pakistan or in China. Further they say, "we want further education to blow up the three nuclear plans in India and it will be something more than what happened in Bhopal." This thing should not be taken casually.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please put your question.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : My question is whether the Government is going to give the detailed reports to the House, because whether it is FBI, China or Pakistan they are acting against the interests of this country. I want a detailed report on all these anti national things—whether they are encouraging or blaming each other in that aspect. What is the detailed report of these three nations against all such reports?

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT : On this matter, as I said, we made enquiries ourselves both in Washington as well as in Beijing. We have found no evidence of the Chinese involvement in this matter. As for the Sino-Pakistan nexus, that is a well-known thing. They have close cooperation—one in the economic field and the other in the military field. All that is there and that is a separate matter.

Associations Working for Welfare of Blind

*623. **DR. PHULRENU GUHA :** Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of associations/organisations engaged for the welfare of blind getting grant from Government; and

(b) the names of such associations/organisations and the amount sanctioned during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI) : (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

Statement

Guha regarding Associations Working for Welfare of Blind.

Irgabusatuib	Grant sanctioned during		
	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pradesh Federation of the Blind, Hyderabad.	8,325	3,330	24,702
2. The President, Sreemanta Shankar Mission, Nowgong, (Assam)	1,50,000	1,44,380	2,64,630

	1	2	3	4
3. Secretary, Girija Shakar Dristi Bhin Balika Vidyalaya, Bhagalpur.		58,230	60,570	73,440
4. Andh Kalyan Kendra, Ahmedabad.		—	—	38,700
5. Adult Training Centre for the Blind, Ahmedabad.		—	—	40,000
6. Andhajan Vividhlaxi Talim Kendra, Jamnagar.		2,18,260	3,80,310	3,79,388
7. Blind Men's Association, Ahmedabad.		2,59,475	1,55,014	8,08,043
8. Andh Kalyan Prakash Grah Trust, Ahmedabad.		10,517	62,075	1,82,446
9. Karnataka Branch of National Association for the Blind, Bangalore.		98,048	1,34,365	1,23,531
10. Dakshina Bharatha Mahila Sangam, Bangalore.		6,225	68,883	36,093
11. Shri Ramana Maharishi Academy for the Blind, Karnataka.		2,65,592	5,26,300	6,77,852
12. The Karnataka Welfare Association for the Blind, Kamla Mansion, Bangalore.		—	21,400	1,50,000
13. Belgaum Distt. Association for the Blind, Belgaum.		—	—	3,00,000
14. Kerala Federation of the Blind.		5,01,665	4,42,703	6,85,177
15. Vimla Social Centre, Calicut.		1,00,000	30,000	—
16. Calicut Islami Cultural Society, Calicut.		40,000	1,10,000	—
17. Kerala Blind School Society, Alwaye.		1,00,000	1,00,000	65,500
18. Women's Welfare Centre, Varuvila, Kerala.		—	1,00,000	1,00,000
19. MP Welfare Association for the Blind, Indore.		3,95,403	2,00,970	2,73,103
20. National Association for the Blind, Bombay.		5,47,687	6,22,784	7,33,665
21. Pune School and Home for the Blind Trust, Pune.		70,000	1,13,480	49,201
22. N.S.D. Industrial Home for the Blind, Bombay.		25,200	—	61,024
23. School for the Blind, Dhule (Mah.).		—	—	45,640
24. Shri Vasant Naik Education Society, Vasant Nagar, Distt. Yavatmal.		—	—	1,50,000
25. Dadar School for the Blind, Bombay.		—	—	85,097
26. Poona Blind Men's Association, Pune.		—	—	16,695

	1	2	3	4
27. Red Cross School for the Blind.		1,00,000	2,00,000	2,78,322
28. Orissa Association for the Blind, Melegodown Road, Bhubaneswar.		—	—	1,00,000
29. Lous Braille Vocational Trg. Centre for Sightless Behrampur.		—	—	17,730
30. The Vocational Rehabilitation Centre, Ludhiana.		—	5,000	—
31. Netraheen Vikas Sansthan, Jodapur.		—	1,00,000	—
32. Rajasthan Netreheen Kalyan Sangh, Jaipur.		—	50,000	—
33. Pragma Chhakshu Shikshan Sansthan, Udaipur.		—	10,000	—
34. L.K.C. Shri Andh Vidyalaya, Sriganganagar.		—	—	1,64,300
35. Hellen Keller Educational Society for the Blind, Madurai.		8,112	51,570	73,356
36. The Tamil Nadu Association of the Blind, Madras.		—	1,93,608	1,12,080
37. National Association for the Blind, Madras.		—	—	2,00,257
38. Satyajothi, Little Flower Extension Work Deptt. School of the Blind, Madras.		—	—	33,480
39. Sur Samarak Mandal, Agra.		1,46,827	50,140	2,52,269
40. Hanuman Prasad poddar Andh Vidyalaya, Varanasi.		1,75,580	80,000	3,53,562
41. Sri Vrindaban Andh Maha Vidyalaya, Vrindaban, Distt. Mathura.		11,997	40,419	20,000
42. National Association for the Blind, Aligarh.		—	1,00,000	40,000
43. Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Narendrapur.		4,29,016	7,18,829	8,49,136
44. Ananda Bhawan, Distt. Hewrah, (W. Bengal).		—	—	1,20,510
45. National Federation of the Blind, Delhi.		1,22,742	1,37,385	2,16,169
46. All India Confederation of the Blind, New Delhi.		30,240	30,240	54,320
47. Blind Relief Association, New Delhi.		1,40,874	2,04,300	1,22,306
48. Society for the Care of the Blind, Chandigarh.		6,390	14,220	—
49. Janta Adarsh Andh Vidyalaya, New Delhi.		—	—	42,710

DR. PHULRENU GUHA : I would like to know how many applications are not entertained and the reasons for not entertaining them. I would also like to know whether applications are to be forwarded by the State Government with their recommendations. What is the rule ?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : The rule is that all the applications have to be routed through the State Governments; but recently we have thought over this matter and the experience has been that the State Governments considerably delay the forwarding of applications. So, we have decided to ensure that the continuing projects do not suffer due to the delay on the part of the State Governments. For that, it has now been decided that if the States do not forward the applications within a period of six weeks then the Central Government will consider it directly.

The total number of applications received for the grant was 294 and we have approved 258. The number of cases which were rejected was only 14.

DR. PHULRENU GUHA : I find that in this list a few organisations which were given grants in the last two years were not given grants just last year. May I know the reason? It is for bad performance or for not getting the recommendations from the State Governments ?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : The details are not with me; but if the Hon. Member sends the report or the information I will look into it.

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Sir, a number of voluntary organisations are engaged in the eradication of blindness in our country. Particularly in my State, Karnataka, a number of clubs like the Rotary, Lions organise free eye camps. Will the Government extend similar assistance to such organisations as are engaged in such service ?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : If any organisation is doing such work, the Government gives assistance.

SHRI SUNIL DUTT : Sir, according to the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind about 40,000 children lose their vision

annually on account of the diseases caused by Vitamin A deficiency. One every thousand children becomes spastic or cerebral palsied on account of medical neglect. The intellect of millions of children is impaired owing to mal-nutrition and lack of stimulation in the early years of childhood. Recent studies have shown that significant development of the child's brain takes place upto 6 years of age. I would like to ask what arrangements have been made in respect of mal-nutrition and poverty stricken children of our country ?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : There are so many projects like mid-day meals etc. Especially for the children in the tribal areas who are suffering from mal-nutrition, we have decided to give them cheap ration. In Anganwadis also, the children get nutritious food.

SHRI A. CHARLES : Is it a fact that sufficient schemes are not available for training, rehabilitation and after-care of the handicapped including the blind? Further, 3 per cent of the vacancies are earmarked for appointment of the handicapped and the minimum qualifications prescribed is SSLC with 50% marks. I would like to know whether a sizeable quota remains unfilled because of this condition of 50% marks and, if so, may I know whether steps will be taken in consultation with other departments to relax this 50% marks limit in respect of handicapped so that the quota which has been earmarked gets filled up ?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : We have decided for 3% reservation. Government departments and public undertakings are trying to accommodate them as far as possible but as has been suggested by the hon. Member we have not considered about lowering the 50% marks limit.

SHRI A. CHARLES : Just to fill up the quota.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : I cannot give the assurance just now. I will have to see all the aspects.

SHRI A. CHARLES : Will it be considered favourably ?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : I cannot give the assurance just now to lower down the marks because it is related with efficiency.