

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, Sir, we are very much satisfied with the work they are doing.

Shri Hem Barua: Is it not a fact that the Russian experts were sent back and at the same time the oil installations were dismantled particularly in Sibsagar by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission after the unilateral ceasefire was declared by China and that has contributed to panic and dissatisfaction there?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No, Sir, it is not correct to say that any installation was dismantled. The work went on as usually. Only for a week or so it was suspended with a view to re-assessing the priority of work. That is all that was done. During that time some of the Russians were requested to go somewhere else.

Shri Abdul Ghani Goni: I understand that the Russian experts carried out certain drilling operations in the State of Jammu and Kashmir and the result was satisfactory. May I know what action has been taken by the Government in the light of that with regard to the State of Jammu and Kashmir?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: There is no proposal for undertaking any programme of oil exploration in the State of Jammu and Kashmir just now.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether plants and equipment handled

by the Russian experts have been lying idle on account of the withdrawal of the Russians from the Sibsagar Project?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, Sir, for a couple of weeks it is correct to say that some of the equipments were lying idle there because there was certain uncertainty with regard to our work. Now it is not like that, civil constructions are going on and drilling operations will start only when the roads are completed and the foundations are built.

Defence of India Act

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*440. { **Shri Mohsin:**
Shri Maheswar Naik:
Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri Balmiki:
Shri Brij Raj Singh:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) how many persons are detained under the Defence of India Act; and

(b) what is their number, Statewise?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the table of the House showing the number of persons detained (State wise) under rule 30 of the Defence of India Rules, 1962, made under the Defence of India Act, 1962.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of the State	Number of persons in detention.
1	2	3
1	Assam	160
2	Andhra Pradesh	24
3	Bihar	26
4	Gujarat	16
5	Kerala	38
6	Madras	46
7	Maharashtra	111
8	Mysore	23

1	2	3
9	Madhya Pradesh	12
10	Orissa	27
11	Punjab	47
12	Rajasthan	5
13	Uttar Pradesh	24
14	West Bengal	108
15	Delhi
16	Goa, Daman and Diu	4
17	Himachal Pradesh	2
18	Manipur	9
19	Pondicherry
20	Tripura	67
21	Nagaland
22	Andaman and Nicobar Islands
23	Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands
TOTAL		749

Shri Mohsin: From the statement that has been laid now it is seen that 749 persons are being detained. Is it a fact that most of them are from the Communist Party?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: Even persons not belonging to Communist Party have been arrested.

Shri Mohsin: May I know how many belong to the communist party and how many to other parties?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): A large number of them belong to the communist party and a few to other parties. There are a few who belong to no party. We have taken action against anti-social elements also. I think more than 60 people have been arrested on account of anti-social activities.

Shri Maheswar Naik: Apart from anti-social elements, may I know how many persons have been arrested on account of anti-national activities, acting as the enemy's agents?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Some people were arrested who were found to be indulging in some kind of spying activity, but their number is very few.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन इस विवरण से ज्ञात होता है कि ७४९ व्यक्ति इस समय नजरबन्द हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि कुल कितन शुरू में गिरफ्तार किए गए थे, कितने अब तक रिहा हो चुके हैं और क्या रिहाई के बारे में कोई अखिल भारतीय नीति अपनाई गई है या राज्यों के ऊपर ही इसको छोड़ दिया गया है ?

श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री : इसमें से लोग छूटे भी हैं। जहाँ तक छोड़ने की बात है, ज्यादातर गिरफ्तारियाँ प्रदेश सरकारों ने ही की हैं—

श्री भक्त दर्शन : कितने छूटे हैं ?

श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री : करीब १५६। यह अभी हाल तक की रिपोर्ट है। मगर रिब्यू होता रहता है और मुम्किन है, और भी बीच में छूटे हों।

Shri Narasimha Reddy: May I know if any member of the Congress Party has been arrested under the Defence of India Act?

Mr. Speaker: Shri Indrajit Gupta.

Some Hon. Members: What about the answer to Mr. Reddy's question?

Mr. Speaker: Is that answer forthcoming?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: We have been strictly fair and I might say that unfortunately we had to detain one of the Congressmen also.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: I want to know whether the decisions to detain certain persons according to this big list given, as also the decisions to review their cases subsequently or to release them are left entirely to the State Governments or does the Central Government also have a hand in it and give any directions to the State Governments?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: No, Sir; we do not give any directions, because it is entirely the responsibility of the State Governments. But we do meet and discuss these things and if necessary, give our own suggestions.

Shri Basumatari: May I know whether it has been brought to the notice of the Home Minister that a few days ago members of the Assam P.C.C. have been arrested for anti-national activities and if so, what were the activities actually carried on by them?

Mr. Speaker: We cannot go into the details of the activities.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: Is it a fact that Shri Rup Narain and two others in Delhi were arrested merely because they addressed a private letter to the Members of Parliament criticising....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. We cannot go into the reasons.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: Is it a fact or not?

Mr. Speaker: If we go into the reasons of every detention of every person who has been arrested, that would be too much for the Question Hour.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: They had written letters only to the Members of Parliament; they were not associated with any other activity.

Mr. Speaker: He has given that information.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: I want to know whether the information—
(Interruption).

Shri Priya Gupta: It is not a question of an individual. It is a matter of principle.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Would he resume his seat?

Shri Priya Gupta: Should we not be taken into confidence?

Mr. Speaker: I am going to take him into confidence: that he should kindly resume his seat. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know whether reviews have been carried out by all the State Governments and whether there are many cases in which arrests have taken place on very flimsy grounds I would like to know whether reviews have been carried out in all States, especially in the State of West Bengal.

Mr. Speaker: Whether reviews have been made: that part could be answered.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Yes, Sir. Reviews have taken place in all these States. Just now, before me there are particulars about three States. In Madras, 61 people have been released; in Gujarat, 32, and in Punjab, 21. This is after the review.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I am not putting any question, but I want to know one thing. I do not know whether it is a point of order or not. It is for you to enlighten us. Shri Surendranath Dwivedy was not able to finish his sentence. It seems to me that a very serious principle is involved. Every citizen in this country has a right to address himself to Members of Parliament. It was not a question of asking for information about the specific individual who may have done other things also. But I would like to know whether this privilege which we enjoy, which we have always enjoyed, is being

abrogated by the Defence of India Act.

Mr. Speaker: The question that was put was about a particular individual and reasons were asked: whether there was no other ground except this one. I disallowed that, on the ground that we cannot go into the reasons in respect of individuals at this moment. That was the only objection that I took.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: I said merely because of the privileges given to Members of Parliament..

Mr. Speaker: That also is going into the merits of the case: if it be merely of one individual, whether it would be stated here. That was my objection.

Shri Ranga: We have come to take so much interest in this case: it is not as if one seeks for some favour from Government. If that is the case, your ruling would be sustainable. But here, fundamental rights are being abrogated and the person is put under detention under this ordinance. Therefore, it is proper for us to ask the Minister concerned to give us the information if he thought it fit to give it and public interest does not come in the way.

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry that I have to intervene again and again and make this observation. My only objection was that it can be raised in any other way but that during the Question Hour I cannot permit individual cases to be taken up.

An Hon. Member: Quite right.

Mr. Speaker: If I am quite right, then let us not proceed further with the same point. Dr. Singhvi.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: rose—

Shri U. M. Trivedi: One question. (Interruption).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. If some debate is required, a different procedure can be adopted.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: It has been set aside. That is the difficulty. You promised to consider it,

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Dr. Singhvi.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Would the Government be prepared to lay on the Table of the House a statement of the names of those detained under the Defence of India Act by any authority in this country and give the circumstances and the reasons leading to such detention?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: I am still awaiting the answer.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I can certainly give the names and put the whole list, but I cannot give the reasons for the detention or arrest.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether it has been brought to his notice that on account of personal quarrels, family quarrels and such other quarrels, the district magistrate has utilised this power for detaining persons?

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Sir, on a point of order. I asked a question whether Government would be willing to place the names of those detained, the reasons and circumstances on the Table of the House. The hon. Minister has stated that he is not in a position to lay on the Table the reasons for detention. I would like to know whether he would be willing to give the names of the persons and the circumstances leading to the detention.

Mr. Speaker: About the names he has stated that he is willing to give it (Interruptions). Order, order. We should proceed in an orderly manner. Every hon. Member standing up and putting questions without getting my permission is not correct.

Shri Bade: But he wants to have a ruling from the Chair.

Mr. Speaker: Ruling on what?

Shri Bade: What is the objection to the reasons being given? Is it against the public interest? The rea-

sons are given to the accused person. If they can be given to the accused person. Why can they not be given to us? If not the reasons, at least the circumstances can be given. He has put a question and he wants a ruling from the Chair whether it will or will not be in the public interest to give the information.

Mr. Speaker: There is no question of giving any ruling on this point. He only wanted to put another supplementary and he adopted another method to achieve that object. If there is any objection, that has also to be answered by the Minister, not by me. What is the ruling that he wants? **Shri Nath Pai.**

Shri U. M. Trivedi: My question has not been answered.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Which question.

Mr. Speaker: A question was put, rather a general question, whether most of them have been detained or arrested for personal reasons.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: Has it been brought to the notice of the hon. Minister that some detentions have been made on account of personal grudge or vendetta of the Districts Magistrate concerned?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I have no information, but if the hon. Member has got any case in his mind he might communicate it to us. But I may inform the House that generally these cases are looked into by the highest authority in the State. In some States the Chief Ministers have written to me, they themselves go into each and every case before final orders are passed.

Shri Nath Pai: I would like to know from the Minister whether some persons arrested under the Defence of India Act were released within a few days of their arrests and, if the answer is "yes" whether the original

arrests were carried out hastily or the releases were effected under some pressures?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: No, Sir. Government have full powers to release any one the next day, third day or the fourth day. Parliament was very particular that we should review all cases, and review them frequently. We did so and we found that in the circumstances it was advisable to release some persons immediately or in a few days' time.

Shri Priya Gupta: Does it mean...

Mr. Speaker: After every supplementary **Shri Priya Gupta** has something to say. I am very sorry.

Shri Priya Gupta: I would like to know whether it is not the inherent right of every citizen to approach any Member of Parliament he wants.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is the Secretary of some party. I would request the leader of that party just to consider whether he could not maintain some discipline among his party members.

Shri Priya Gupta: In democracy matters are not decided by a party leader. Here you are the protector.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Rather I seek protection from the leader of the party against his members.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: He is one of the disciplined members of our party.

Mr. Speaker: If the proceedings of the House are interrupted like this I would request the Leaders of parties to maintain some discipline over their members. Otherwise, I will have to see whether certain parties should continue to function or not.

Shri Nath Pai: He is one of the very obedient members of the party.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: Dr. Singhvi has sent a motion. I have also sent one....

Mr. Speaker: It can be considered after the question hour.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: I want to know whether you will allow a discussion on this.

Mr. Speaker: How can I answer it just now?

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I had put a question to which the hon. Minister has not given a reply. I wanted to know whether the review of the cases of West Bengal has been finalised and, if so, how many have been released as a result of that.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: No, Sir; they have not been finalised. They will certainly review the cases; but till now no orders of release have been passed.

Shri H. P. Chatterjee: I want to know from the hon. Home Minister, if innocent persons are arrested what the remedy may be. I brought one case to his notice. So, when innocent persons are arrested under the Defence of India Act, what may be the remedy if their cases are not reviewed promptly by the Centre?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I greatly sympathise with the hon. Member.

Mr. Speaker: If it is only a legal remedy, it need not be repeated here; but if there is some other remedy, that may be told.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: There is no legal remedy.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I can only say that about some of the cases which have been referred to me—one case by the hon. Member and some by other hon. Members also—I have specially spoken to the Chief Ministers concerned and I am quite sure that they will look into those cases as early as possible.

2535 (Ai) LSD—2.

Soviet Oil Products for India

***441. Shri Bishanchander Seth:** Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement between the Soviet Union and the State-owned Indian Oil Company for the supply of three lakh tons of furnace oil has been signed;

(b) whether it is also a fact that India will receive one million tons of oil products (mainly kerosene) during 1963; and

(c) if so, what are the terms and conditions for the same?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Fuel (Shri Hajarnavis): (a) to (c). It is a fact that the Indian Oil Company has contracted with the Soviet Oil Export Organization for the import of substantial quantities of deficit products, namely kerosene, HSD & Furnace Oil, during 1963. It is not in the public interest to disclose the quantities or the terms and conditions of the commercial agreement.

श्री बिशनचन्द्र सेठ: मेरी समझ में यह बात नहीं आई कि आयल में भी कोई ऐसी बात हो सकती है जो न बताई जा सके। लेकिन उस को मैं छोड़ता हूँ। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आपके पास आदल बाहर से आ रहा है और हमारे देश में भी पर्याप्त मात्रा में तेल निकल रहा है, तो हम इस के सम्बन्ध में कब तक आत्म निर्भर हो जायेंगे ?

खान ओर ईवन नंत्री (श्री के० दे० मालवीय): मैं तो आशा करता हूँ कि हम जल्द आत्म निर्भर हो जायेंगे। तेल का इस्तेमाल भी बढ़ता जाता है और उग का उत्पादन भी बढ़ता जाता है। मुझे उम्मीद है कि हम चार पांच साल में आत्म निर्भर हो जायेंगे।

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know how much kerosene oil we are importing every year, and how much