

Mr. Speaker: Next question. Shri Hem Barua.

श्री बागड़ी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस प्रश्न के लिये मेरा नाम भी था, कम से कम मुझे तो प्रश्न करने का अवसर मिलना ही चाहिये था ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : बहुत अच्छा, लेकिन अब हम दूसरे प्रश्न पर चले गये हैं ।

Removal of Boundary Pillars by Pakistan

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Shri Hem Barua:
 Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:
 Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
 Shri S. C. Samanta:
 Shri Subodh Hansda:
 Shri R. S. Pandey:
 Shri Yashpal Singh:
 Shri Bagri:
 Shri D. C. Sharma:
 Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:
 Shri Hukam Chand
 *122. { Kachhavalaya:
 Shri Bade:
 Shri Brij Raj Singh:
 Shri Sarjoo Pandey:
 Shri Kapur Singh:
 Shri Gulshan:
 Shri Solanki:
 Shri Narasimha Reddy:
 Shri P. K. Deo:
 Shri Madhu Limaye:
 Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan had removed all the pucca boundary pillars between India and Pakistan in Meghana and Nasirapara villages in Nadia district of West Bengal;

(b) whether Government have also any other information of Pakistan removing or trying to remove boundary pillars between the two countries, particularly in the Assam-East Pakistan sector of our frontier; and

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken to ensure security of these border pillars?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

On the night of the 12th May, 1965, a large number of Pakistanis removed 3 international boundary pillars between East Pakistan and West Bengal along the Mouzas Sheikpara Meghana (J.L. No. 112) and Andharkota (J.L. No. 111) under P.S. Karimpur, District Nadia. On the 26th May, 1965, the Government of West Bengal lodged a protest with the Government of East Pakistan.

Tripura-East Pakistan Border:

46 boundary pillars were removed and 58 boundary pillars were damaged on different dates.

Assam-East Pakistan Border:

Occasional reports of damage and destruction of boundary pillars have been received by the State Government. But there has been no large-scale destruction in this border except by river action in the Brahmaputra sector.

West Bengal-East Pakistan Border:

A few cases of removal of boundary pillars from some other parts of West Bengal border have also been received. Border Forces have been instructed to intensify patrolling to prevent removal or damage of pillars. In the case of the West Bengal-East Pakistan border, Directors of Land Records and Surveys, West Bengal and East Pakistan, have taken certain agreed decisions for the care and maintenance of boundary pillars.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know if our Government have notified UNO of this Pakistani vandalism and, if

so, what is the reaction of the UN Secretary-General to this incident? Is he excited over this incident as he was excited over our occupation of two posts in Kargil last time?

Shri Swaran Singh: The removal of certain pillars in the East Pakistan border has got nothing to do with the United Nations.

Shri Hem Barua: May I draw the attention of the Government to a recent broadcast by Radio Pakistan which says:

"Every young brave man of Pakistan is Mahmood the idol-breaker. He is ever-prepared to jump into the battle ground, fight the invader and crush him to the ground."

I do not know who this Mahmood is. Possibly, this is the Mahmood of Gazni who caused devastation in India during the 10th or 11th century.

Mr. Speaker: No comments on history or historical facts. That is why the trouble arises and I am forced to interfere. Then arguments are entered into and much of the time is wasted.

Shri Hem Barua: In the context of that, may I know whether our Government propose to deal with these Mahmoods as sternly as possible, or are they proposing or contemplating to negotiate with these Mahmoods for a so-called peaceful settlement?

Shri Swaran Singh: The Government is aware, and I am sure the country is aware, that broadcasts of Radio Pakistan have been couched in very offensive and very aggressive language, and that is not at all consistent with the outward expressions that have been made by the Pakistani leaders when they talk of peaceful settlement. Their actions and their statements belie their professions.

श्री बड़ै : प्राप के स्टेटमेंट में लिखा गया है कि त्रिपुरा पूर्वी पाकिस्तान सीमा पर भ्रमण जगहों पर 46 स्तम्भ तोड़े गये और

58 सीमा स्तम्भों का नुकसान पहुंचाया गया। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि भ्रमण भ्रमण जगहों पर कितने महीनों तक यह नुकसान पहुंचाया जाता रहा, और क्या प्राप ने फिर वह स्तम्भ नया दिये हैं या जमीन बैसे ही पड़ी हुई है।

Shri Swaran Singh: 46 boundary pillars were removed and 5 boundary pillars were damaged on different dates—I have not got these dates—and out of the removed pillars, 11 pillars have been re-fixed. The question of re-fixing all the removed pillars and the repairing of the damaged pillars is being taken up by the District Magistrate, Tripura with his Pakistani counter-part.

श्री बड़ै : यह बताया गया है कि ये पिलर डिफरेंट डेट्स पर उखाड़े गए। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि ये कितने पीरियड में उखाड़े गये एक महीने में, दो महीने में, चार महीने में ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : प्राप बैठ जाइए, इसका जवाब प्रा गया है।

श्री रामसेवक दास : ये जो स्तम्भ हटाए गए हैं क्या इस के बारे में भारत सरकार ने पाकिस्तान सरकार को लिखा है ? यदि हाँ, तो क्या पाकिस्तान सरकार ने स्वीकार किया है इनको उन्नीने या उनके प्रादमियों ने हटाया है ?

Shri Swaran Singh: The pillars were fixed as a result of the joint consultation and agreement between the representatives of the two Governments. The act of damaging the pillars is not accepted by the Pakistan Government. They always say that some miscreants may have done it and some of them, as I have already indicated, have already been re-fixed. The local authorities on either side, according to the procedure, are trying to restore the other pillars also.

श्री बड़ै : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा एक प्वाइंट प्राफ़ प्राईर है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब तो दूमरा मकान बना गया ।

श्री बड़े : मेरी सूचना है कि ये 48 पिलर एक साल तक उखाड़े जाते रहे हैं, पर गवर्नमेंट को मालूम नहीं था । क्या 6 महीने या साल भर तक शासन सोया हुआ था । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उनको कब मालूम हुआ इस के बारे में । इस मामले में मैं आपकी गाइडेंस चाहता हूँ । हाउस को अंदरे में क्यों रखा जाता है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर आप मेरी गाइडेंस मानते हैं, तो इस वक्त यही गाइडेंस है कि आप बैठ जाइए ।

श्री बड़े : हमें इन्फारमेशन है कि एक साल से ऊखाड़े जा रहे हैं ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : फिर गाइडेंस की क्या बात है ।

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether the demarcation of the boundary between East Pakistan and West Bengal/Assam border has been completed and whether the new posts which have been removed are those that were put recently?

Shri Swaran Singh: The demarcation over the entire area is not yet complete. The places from where the pillars have been removed are the places where the pillars had been put up as a result of joint demarcation.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Bade is insisting again and again as to how long was it that the Pakistani; took to remove or interfere with those pillars. The dates might not be known but the period, if it can be given, might be given to him.

Shri Swaran Singh: These are not recent things. They were not all destroyed as a result of one action. Over a period of one year and a half, there have been occasional removals of one pillar or the other.

Mr. Speaker: What was the Government doing? That is what he wants to know.

Shri Swaran Singh: As I have mentioned already, this action is not claimed or admitted to have been done by the Pakistan Government. Sometimes, when there are removals, there are counter-claims also that some miscreants, either Pakistanis or maybe others, may have caused damage to these pillars. Then, we get together and restore these pillars.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूँ कि अभी कितनी जगहें ऐसी हैं जहाँ हमें इस पावरफुल सरकार को फिर पिलर लगाने बाकी हैं, और कब तक यह काम कम्प्लीट हो जायेगा ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो उन्होंने कह ।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : को डेट बरलाए ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : डेट बताना तो बहुत मुश्किल है ।

Shri U. M. Trivedi: In view of the statement that has been made by the hon. Minister that these pillars are removed and then re-fixed, has the Government not considered it proper to have these pillars constructed of concrete with foundations?

Shri Swaran Singh: These are concrete pillars with foundations. But even those can be damaged.

Shri Basumatari: In view of the fact that there is constant mass infiltration into Assam and also aggressive activity, may I know whether the Government of Assam has put in a suggestion to make a de-populated belt or to construct a wall along the border? If so, what is the reaction of the Government?

Shri Swaran Singh. This does not arise out of that.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, it does not.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि ये जो पिलर उखाड़े गए हैं ये किने लम्बे चौड़े एरिया में से उखाड़े गए हैं ? मंत्री महोदय ने बताया कि 1। लगाए जा रहे हैं मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि बाकी कब लगाए जाएंगे, और जो नहीं उखाड़े जाते हैं इस के लिए क्या कोई खाम व्यवस्था की गयी है, कि आगे न उखाड़े जाएं ?

Shri Swaran Singh: There is no area as such because generally the pillars are fixed on straightline; then the distance between the two pillars can be quite considerable. When there are bunds, then the larger number of pillars are generally found in smaller areas. I have already given the number of pillars. Therefore, on this point, the action that has to be taken is this: this is generally handled by the two District Magistrates of the adjoining districts in India and Pakistan. Where these pillars are removed, if there is any dispute, then the two Surveyors-General help them. There is no dispute as such. He should not take it in that light.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं ने पूछा कि कितनी जमीन है, सरकार को अपनी जमीन की मायमी नहीं है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने कहा कि इस का रकबा नहीं बता सकते ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : जो व की वचे : कब तक लग जायेंगे ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह जवाब उन्होंने पहले दे दिया है ।

Shri Ranga: In view of the fact that there must be some ground rules to guide the District Magistrates of both sides to decide these matters whenever there is any dispute, may I know how often they meet and whether they have met during the last one year and six months, and why is it

that it has not been possible for them to replace these posts there?

Shri Swaran Singh: In these matters, unless there is goodwill and there is also their agreement to meet, we cannot do much unilaterally. It is a fact that the co-operation that is normally expected from the officers from Pakistan side has not unfortunately been forthcoming. Notwithstanding our efforts, there have been delays. But in a matter like this, it is very difficult for us to take action unilaterally. All this boundary at the places is fully admitted and agreed to by both the sides and the removal of pillars is no doubt a matter of irritation and we do not like it, but it does not vitally affect our interests in any matter.

Shri Ranga: My question was how often these District Magistrates have met.

Shri Swaran Singh: I could not give that information straightway.

श्री बागड़ी : जो यह पम्ब बीच में से हटाए गए हैं, तो क्या सरकार यह महसूस करती है कि इन के हटने के कारण पाकिस्तान सरकार यह सोच रही हो कि अगर ये बीच के निशान मिट जायें, तो वह भारत की जमीन हथिदा ले ? क्या इस खतरे को महसूस करते हुए सरकार हिफाजत के लिए कोई कदम उठाने पर विचार कर रही है ?

श्री स्वर्ण सिंह : जी हाँ, हिफाजत का पूरा इन्तिजाम है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : क्या यह खतरा है कि ऐसा करने से पाकिस्तान सरकार की यह नीयत है कि वह हमारी कुछ जमीन पर कब्जा कर ले या उसे हथिदा ले ?

श्री स्वर्ण सिंह : अगर उनके मन में ऐसा है, तो यह उनकी बड़ी भारी भूल होगी । वह समझ सकते हैं कि ऐसा करने से उनका हथ्र क्या होगा । जहाँ मानी हुई हद है उस के बारे में झगड़ा करने की कोई ग्वाजटन नहीं है ।