

**Mr. Speaker:** He said I promised. I never did that. I have consulted the record. I do not know where the mistake has taken place.

#### Reports on Defences in NEFA

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\*507. **Shri A. S. Alva;**  
**Shri Krishnapal Singh;**  
**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to an article in 'Bharat Jyoti' dated the 26th September, 1965 by Diwan Chaman Lal, M.P. to the effect that one of our Military Officers had submitted a report about strengthening our defences at strategic points in NEFA and that some copies of the same found their way to the Chinese authorities through Pakistan;

(b) whether Government have verified the truth or otherwise of the statement; and

(c) if the report is correct, the steps taken to trace the culprits and to see that such leakages as endanger the safety of the country are not repeated?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Defence (Dr. D. S. Raju):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no basis for the report as all the copies of the report are intact.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Report on Defences of NEFA and Ladakh

\*532. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether a copy of the report of the Study Group which was appointed in February, 1961 to review the problems concerning the defence of N.E.F.A. and Ladakh under the Chairmanship of Lt. Gen. L. P. Sen, the

then Chief of the General Staff will be laid on the Table; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Defence (Dr. D. S. Raju):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) The recommendations of the Study Group are naturally of a secret nature. It would not be in public interest to disclose them on the floor of the House.

**Shri A. S. Alva:** May I know whether Mr. Chaman Lal or the previous Defence Minister has been approached in respect of this?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan):** No, Sir.

**Shri A. S. Alva:** In view of the strategic importance of NEFA is there any move to have a capital in NEFA itself instead of administering it from Shillong?

**Shri Y. B. Chavan:** This question needs to be addressed to the EA Ministry.

**Shri Krishnapal Singh:** In view of the alarming report—I am glad that all the copies are intact—may I know if the government will consider improving the administration of NEFA and making it an absolutely independent State with a separate capital?

**Mr. Speaker:** That might be considered.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** The Deputy Minister, if I heard him aright, denied everything and said, no, and that the copies were intact. May I invite his attention to fact that a veteran Congressman whose name is mentioned in the question captioned his article as "story of a betrayal"—I will call it a foul betrayal if it were true—Why did not the government issue a contradiction at the time when the report appeared in that paper? Is it a fact that not merely Lt. Gen. Sen but before him Gen. Thimmayya also gave a blueprint or plan for the defence of NEFA and