

Pakistani Propaganda against India

+

244. Shri R. Barua:*Shri R. S. Pandey:****Shri Liladhar Kotoki:****Shri N. R. Laskar:**

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the Pakistani propaganda in foreign countries regarding India producing atomic weapons;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps taken to counter such propaganda?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is regretted that in spite of the Tashkent Declaration such false propaganda is being carried out.

(c) Our Missions abroad have rebutted the Pakistani propaganda, and re-iterated the Government of India's policy to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes only.

Shri R. Barua: May I know whether a large number of Indians who are staying in U.S.A. and particularly in U.K. are not even appraised of the developments in India and, if so, what steps Government propose to take to educate these people so that they can also act as emissaries of the Government of India?

Shri Dinesh Singh: That is a slightly wider question than the nuclear policy. But, as I have mentioned in this House on several occasions, they are appraised of the developments in India through the publications that our Missions bring out there and through the newspapers and publications that we send from here. I have given particulars of these publications to this House.

Shri R. Barua: May I know whether any assessment is sought to be made with regard to our propaganda outside, and, if so, what steps have

been taken by the Government to that effect so far?

Shri Dinesh Singh: There is no proposal to make any specific review at this stage. But, as the House is aware, the Pillai Committee is already going into it.

Shri N. R. Laskar: Over and above countering the Pakistani propaganda, I would like to know whether our Government is doing any definite work against the spread of nuclear weapons.

Shri Dinesh Singh: Yes, Sir. We are collaborating with other countries in the United Nations and also in the Disarmament Committee.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या सरकार को पता है कि पाकिस्तान में पूरे एक हफ्ते से यह प्रचार कर रहा है कि गी-रक्षा के मामले में हिन्दुस्तानी आपस में कट कर मर जायेंगे, इसलिए किसी और बार या हमले की जरूरत नहीं है, यदि हां, तो उसने इस प्रचार का जवाब देने के लिए और यह बताने के लिए क्या कदम उठाया है कि हम एक हैं और हम में इख्तालाफ-राय नहीं है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह सवाल एटामिक वैपन्ज के बारे में है ।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : मैंने यह पूछा है कि हिन्दुस्तान के खिलाफ जो प्रचार हो रहा है, उस के बारे में भारत सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाए हैं ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैंने माननीय सदस्य को बताया है कि यह सवाल एटामिक वैपन्ज को जोड़ूस करने के बारे में है ।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : कुछ भी हां, हमारे खिलाफ जो प्रचार हो रहा है, उस के सम्बन्ध में भारत सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाए हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : श्री हेम बरुआ ।

Shri Hem Barua: May I know if the attention of Government is drawn to a news report that Pakistan proposes to manufacture her first atom bomb by 1968 and, if so, whether this Government would think that the propaganda indulged in by Pakistan to the effect that India is indulging in atomic race is only made in order to off-set her own dirty designs of manufacturing her own atom bomb by 1968?

Shri Dinesh Singh: It is quite possible.

Shri Basappa: Has it come to the notice of the Government that Pakistani propaganda is carried out to such an extent that films are being shown in American Universities to show that Pakistan was more successful in the last September campaign than India and, if so, what action is being taken by our Washington Embassy to counteract this propaganda?

Shri Dinesh Singh: It does not arise out of this Question directly. It is very difficult to say at what time what media Pakistan would utilise to malign us, and to that extent they have this advantage of utilising all media in giving the an impression they want to project. But as soon as it comes to our notice, then Government tries to counteract that by taking steps either by contacting the agency which has done that or by bringing out our own publications. So far as these films are concerned, I cannot say off-hand.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, हिन्दी अनुवाद मुनाई नहीं दे रहा है। हम काफ़ी देर से संकेत दे रहे हैं। हमारी समझ में नहीं आ रहा है कि क्या कार्यवाही हो रही है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : पहले अंग्रेज़ी ट्रांसलेशन मुनाई नहीं दे रहा था। अगर हिन्दी ट्रांसलेशन मुनाई नहीं दे रहा है, तो उसको अभी ठीक कर दिया जायेगा। इसको ठीक किया जा रहा है।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : इसको सेशन शुरू होने से पहले चेक किया जाना चाहिये। हम यहाँ पर बेकार बैठे हुए हैं, क्योंकि हम समझ नहीं पाते कि सदन में क्या कार्यवाही हो रही है।

Shri Nath Pai: The hon. Minister of State for External Affairs stated that it is likely that Pakistan is raising this barrage of propaganda against India. Since the Minister himself stated that this may possibly be a smoke screen to hide Pakistan's own effort either to develop or acquire nuclear weapons, may I know what is Government's assessment as to how Pakistan is on the way to acquire or develop its own atom bomb? Has any assessment been made?

Shri Dinesh Singh: It is very difficult to say what Pakistan is doing in this respect except that Pakistan has some arrangement of collaboration with China and to that extent, they are committed either to acquiring nuclear weapons from China or to manufacturing in collaboration with China. Regarding their collaboration with other countries, the other countries have assured us that there is no collaboration for the manufacture of atomic bomb in Pakistan.

Shri Bakar Ali Mirza: In view of the second test by China and in view also of the Government's policy about nuclear disarmament, may I know whether there is any cell created either in the Ministry of External Affairs or in the Defence Ministry to find out the exact nature of the threat and to suggest counter-measures to meet that threat politically and militarily?

Mr. Speaker: It will not be relevant here. That is entirely a different thing.

Next Question.

Shri Nath Pai: I would like, Mr. Speaker, to draw the attention of the Minister to this. He says that he does not think so. There is a report in the Times of India.....

Mr. Speaker: Now I cannot allow that.

Shri Nath Pai: This is a very vital subject.

Mr. Speaker: He can have recourse to some other method. Now it cannot be raised.

Shri Nath Pai: All right. I will give notice for a half-an-hour discussion.

Import of Newsprint from U.S.A.

+

*245. **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**

Shri B. K. Das:

Shri Maheswar Naik:

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the difficulties in importing newsprint from U.S.A. against aid resources;

(b) whether steps have been taken to manufacture printing machinery and other components aiming at attaining self-sufficiency; and

(c) whether Government have taken any decision to allow the old periodicals and daily newspapers to have 16 pages of standard size and to allocate the requisite quantity of newsprint to them?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Raj Bahadur):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As the manufacture of printing machinery is a highly specialised industry involving complicated technical know-how where fear of obsolescence of designing is great, the pace of development has been slow. Permission has been granted by the Ministry of Industry to a number of firms for the manufacture of different types of printing and ancillary machinery in collaboration with foreign parties. A panel has been set up by that Ministry under the Chairmanship of Shri P. R. Ramakrishna, M.P., to review the existing capacity for the manufacture of machinery with a view to recommending to Government the measures that should

be taken to make the country self-sufficient in regard to printing machinery.

(c) It has been decided that old periodicals should also be allowed to increase their pages, if they wish to, up to 16 pages of standard size daily newspapers up to a maximum circulation of 10,000 copies. No proposal in regard to increase in the pages of daily newspapers is under consideration.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: May I know whether Government has taken steps to allot imported newsprint rather than NEPA newsprint to the smaller periodicals and journals?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Our attempt is to provide as much support as possible to the small and medium newspapers and we do take that particular principle into account while allotting newsprint.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: In view of the serious competition from the chain of big newspapers, may I know what special facilities have been made available to the smaller periodicals and journals, specially with regard to the allotment of Government advertisements?

Shri Raj Bahadur: We have taken a few steps including the provision of a larger share of advertisements, display as well as classified, than hitherto. That will provide some relief. I do not say that it would be adequate. We have to provide some other measures also.

Shri B. K. Das: In allocating quotas of newsprint, may I know how distribution is made of imported and indigenous newsprint?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The allotment of newsprint quota is made on the basis of circulation. So far as smaller papers are concerned, we try to ensure that they get all that they need by way of newsprint and they do not have to fall back for their requirement upon white paper.