

**"China Today"**

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\*1601. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**  
           **Shri P. K. Deo:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proscribed issue No. 16 of magazine "China Today" dated the 21st April for publishing an article prejudicial to the interests of the safety and security of India; and

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the desirability of stopping its publication and circulation in India in view of repeated instances of the same nature?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** (a) Yes.

(b) While there is no provision in law under which the publication of a journal can be prevented, it is being considered as to what further action should be taken in this matter.

**"China Today"**

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\*1614. { **Shri Hem Barua:**  
           **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**  
           **Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of issues of "China Today", a journal published by the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi, which have been proscribed since January 1, 1962 together with the date of publication and the date of forfeiture of each;

(b) the name of the printing press where they were printed;

(c) the name of the owner or proprietor of the press;

(d) whether action under the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1961 has been taken against the press;

(e) if so, the nature of action taken; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** (a) Notification under the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1961, declaring issue No. 50 dated the 9th December, 1961, issue No. 18 dated the 5th May, 1962 and issue No. 16 dated the 21st April, 1962 of "China Today" to be forfeited to Government were issued on 8th May, 11th May and 29th May, 1962, respectively.

(b) The New Age Printing Press, New Delhi.

(c) The People's Publishing House, Private, Limited.

(d) to (f). The matter is under consideration.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know if Government know how many copies of this paper are circulated in Delhi and outside Delhi, all over India?

**Shri Datar:** According to present information, some copies have been forfeited in the States of U.P., Rajasthan and Punjab.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know whether Government are in a position to know the list of the persons to whom these copies are sent, and if so, have Government got this information?

**Shri Datar:** They have been forfeited by the State Governments. The details are not with us.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I know whether the attention of Government is drawn to *China Today*, 24th issue, that was distributed in Delhi on 19th June, wherein this statement occurs:

"A lie is after all a lie, a truth a truth; a lie can never be turned into truth, no matter how often the Indian Government repeats it?"

If so, in view of the fact that a statement of this sort naturally enough

lampoons India as a whole, why is it that Government have not decided to take any drastic action against this? We do not want to be called 'liars'.

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):** As the hon. Member is aware, three issues were confiscated. As regards the 24th issue, I have not seen it. Anyhow, if action is needed, the same action will have to be taken against that issue also. However, as he knows, generally under our present rules, we cannot prevent publication of any journal. But action could be taken against statements or articles which are prejudicial to the interests, security and safety of the country. We have looked into this matter as to how to proceed in the matter. There are different ways. But we do want to take some action in this regard.

**Shri Hem Barua:** In view of the fact that certain issues of *China Today* are proscribed, may I know whether Government have taken the trouble to collect those issues that might be lying with the Chinese Embassy here or with the printing press here?

**Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri:** As for the Chinese Embassy, it is, of course, a different matter. But as regards the press, the Delhi authorities did make a number of searches and went to different places. They have not been able to secure any copy.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** In view of the fact that there has invariably been a considerable time-lag between the publication and circulation of *China Today* on the one hand and its proscription and forfeiture on the other, is it a fact that the police authorities have reported to Government that it is somewhat difficult to implement the ban order, because copies once circulated cannot be easily seized and forfeited to Government?

**Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri:** That may be so.

**Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** In reply to (d) and (e) of question No. 1614,

it is stated that the matter is under consideration. May I know the basis and the point on which this consideration is proceeding?

**Mr. Speaker:** Why should he insist on Government disclosing it?

श्री भक्त दर्शन श्रीमान्, क्या इस "चिना टुडे" का कोई हिन्दी संस्करण भी प्रकाशित होता है, और यदि होता है तो क्या उसे भी जप्त किया गया है ?

श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री : जी हाँ, "आज का चीन" के नाम से निकलता है, और उसे भी जप्त किया गया है ।

**Shri Tyagi:** I heard the hon. Minister say that there was no law which could enable him to check this type of tendencies which are leading towards treason. If that is so, could not the hon. Minister come out with a proposal and get the sanction of Parliament so that he may be fully authorised to stop this treason in the country?

**Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri:** I did not say that we cannot take action in such cases. I merely said that we have got full freedom of speech and writing in our country.

**Shri Tyagi:** For Indians, or for foreigners also?

**Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri:** This, of course, concerns Indians. I said we therefore do not prevent the publication of any paper. However, as I said, if something objectionable is written, which is against the law, we have to take action against the publication.

#### Foreign Tourists

\*1602. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been complaints from foreign tourists about difficulties experienced by them at the customs; and