

Dr. Sarojini Mahishi: In view of the inadequate arrangements for some of the South-East Asian countries may I know when the Government intends to get the necessary technical equipment for broadcasting the viewpoint of India?

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: Everybody knows that we are trying for a high power transmitter and as soon as we get this all the difficulties will be remedied.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: The new broadcast could not be started because of lack of resources. May I know whether adjustment is going to be made to enable the broadcast of Swahili, Arabic and Lebanese languages?

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I do not know if some broadcasts are done at present even in these languages. As I explained, the main difficulty is technical resources.

Shri Joachim Alva: We are giving 7 hours and 15 minutes every day to the South-East Asian region. Have we been able to monitor the broadcasts from Peking to this region and if so what is the proportion of our broadcasts to those of Peking?

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I am sorry I cannot give the information.

Shri Hem Barua: Sir, may I seek your guidance . . .

Mr. Speaker: I am not here to give guidance, but only to decide the issues as and when they arise.

Shri Hem Barua: It is a very important issue?

Mr. Speaker: What is the issue?

Shri Hem Barua: It affects the security of the State, and so may I request you to direct the Minister to collect the information, because in monitoring all these broadcasts our security is involved. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Now that he has raised it, the Minister will take note of it. Next question.

Alleged Eviction of Muslims from Tripura

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*378. { Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Krishnapal Singh:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the London "Times" despatch of 6th December, 1963 from its special correspondent in Comilla, East Pakistan, alleging that thousands of Indian Muslims have been forcibly evicted from their homes in Tripura and expelled to East Pakistan; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government felt that the report carried by the London "Times" in its issue dated 6th December, 1963, on the so-called 'eviction' of Muslims from India was based on Pakistan versions and completely one-sided. Government therefore instructed their High Commission in London to take this up with the editor of the London "Times". The Acting High Commissioner in London sent a letter to the "Times", presenting the correct facts and requesting the editor to publish the letter in the columns of the newspaper.

The New Delhi representative of the London "Times" was invited to see an official of the Ministry of External Affairs, for a discussion on the problem of Pakistani infiltration into Assam, Tripura and West Bengal, so that he could get a correct picture of the magnitude of the problem and its various implications. The correspondent of the London "Times" called at the Ministry of External Affairs on December 14, 1963 and after a full discussion, sent another report to his newspaper, giving facts and figures and other details on the problem of infiltration. His subsequent report

corrected, to some extent, the one-sided impression that had been created by the report carried in the London "Times" dated 6th December, 1963. The second report was published in the London "Times" on 16th December, 1963.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I know whether the original letter or statement which was issued in London by our High Commissioner was published by the *Times*?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: No, Sir. It was not published.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I know whether the Government are taking any additional steps to ensure that any marginal cases of error or mistaken identity which might occur inadvertently are minimised or eliminated altogether in the case of those people who have infiltrated and are now being evicted?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Every precaution is taken and in fact a Committee of Lawyers was appointed, and they have found that there is only one doubtful case among the cases that were examined.

Shri Mohammad Elias: May I know whether the tribunal which was assured by the Home Minister, Shri Nanda, will go into all these cases where the people have actually infiltrated illegally into India from Pakistan and whether those cases will be enquired into, so that no innocent Muslim is put into trouble?

The Minister without portfolio (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): So far as the enquiry into the cases is concerned the Government of India have issued definite instructions to the Tripura Government, and I might inform the House that immediately, after sometime, these people went over to Pakistan, we had issued instructions to stop evicting those people unless full and proper enquiry was made.

Shri Nath Pai: The hon. Minister of External Affairs stated that the clarifi-

fication given by our acting High Commissioner in London was not published; that the London *Times* declined to publish it. But today, in the newspapers, we have read also that a clarification given by the Indian High Commissioner in Nairobi stating that a letter alleged to have been written by Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed was a forgery,—this clarification also was not published by the same paper which published the forged letter. May we know from the Prime Minister—where the official representatives of the Government of India issue clarifications, they are voluntarily rejected by papers in the capitals of the Commonwealth countries—whether this is an indication of the unreality of the so-called Commonwealth link or of the dwindling influence of this Government abroad?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The reason why this letter was not published was because of its length. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: It was not published because of its length.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: They said it should be reduced to 300 words. In 300 words, we could not give all the information correcting the position.

Shri Nath Pai: I have raised a more important matter; wider issues. Why do they evade the issue?

Mr. Speaker: He has put two alternatives; the Government would be prepared to accept neither of them.

Shri A. P. Jain: When the letter which was sent to the London *Times* was not published by that paper, may I know whether any attempt was made to get that letter or a gist of the contradiction published in other papers in England?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Not that I know of. But the hon. Member knows that the correction has been made by the Ministry inviting the London *Times* correspondent.

Mr. Speaker: Members feel agitated and want to know whether, if that paper itself does not publish the contradiction that was sent, we did not make any attempt to get it published in other papers? (*Interruptions*).

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I hope the hon. Members heard that part of the reply which clearly states that a contradiction was issued and a statement was published in the same paper itself on the 16th December, 1963. Of course, we may not be fully satisfied with that statement. Yet, the position was made quite clear in the statement which was published in the *Times* itself.

Shri Tyagi: It is a very serious matter. While Pakistan makes all types of propaganda against India and as a result of the Pakistan Government's policy of "kill, convert and compel to quit", more than 75,000 people have migrated to the Garo Hills, including 35,000 Christians, why is our External Affairs Ministry failing to give due publicity to these activities of Pakistan? Is it deliberate? Why was it not publicised?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: How does it arise out of this question, Sir?

Shri Tyagi: I want to know what is the publicity.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: It has been publicised. Hon. Member is aware that foreign correspondents as well as our correspondents went there, interviewed the refugees, the migrants, and have given full publicity to what they have seen.

Shri Tyagi: Even in India, this was not given sufficient publicity. (*Interruptions*). Is it the policy to suppress the publicity?

Mr. Speaker: No. Not at all. (*Interruptions*). Order, order. There ought not to be speeches on this.

Shri Nath Pai: It reflects the anxiety of the House.

श्री प्रकाशबीर शास्त्री : श्रीमन्, मैं यह

• जानना चाहता हूँ कि भारत सरकार के हाई कमिश्नर ने जो लंदन "टाइम्स" के प्रतिनिधि

को त्रिपुरा में मुसलमानों की संख्या और उनको निकालने का उपाय बतलाया और यहाँ भी सरकार ने जो उनके प्रतिनिधि से बातचीत की तो उसमें त्रिपुरा में कितने मुसलमानों की संख्या बताई और वह बलात् नहीं निकले जा रहे हैं अपितु किसी वैधानिक उपाय से निकाले जा रहे हैं तो वह उपाय उन्होंने क्या बतलाये ?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The first letter published 47,000 as the number of Pakistanis evicted. But the correct figure is only 20,000. This was published in the second letter, as I have mentioned in the reply.

Mr. Speaker: The representative was called here by our External Affairs Ministry and the whole situation was explained to him as to how we are evicting them after proper enquiry and assessment. The question is, by what method, in what manner, that assessment was being made, after which those people are asked to quit?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I am sorry I still do not understand the question.

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry.

श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री : यह जो माननीय सदस्य ने पूछा तो उन को सारी बातें बतलाई गईं कि जिस तरीके से हम नोटिस देते हैं। उनको नोटिस देने के बाद फिर उसकी जांच की जाती है। उनको मौक मिलता है कि वह अपना बयान दें। बयान देने के बाद अफसर भी उसको देखते हैं। हम चाहते थे तो जरूर कि उसकी भी जांच पड़ताल हो। यह हमारा अन्दरूनी मामला है लेकिन उनको बतलाया गया कि यह हमारा तरीका है। यहाँ तो ४४,००० का उन को आँकड़ा था उसमें जैता मंत्री महाराज ने बतलाया २०,००० के करीब तो बैसे भये। बहुतां को नोटिस भी नहीं मिला और बहुत से कुइंट नोटिस के अलावा भी चले गये यह बात भी उन को बतलाई गई।