

to reply in regard to this point He gave a lecture.

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR: There are several programmes which had been included in the 20-Point Programme. If I also ask about one particular programme and the hon. Minister says that he needs a separate notice, then there is no meaning in asking a question. One of the points of the 20-Point Programme was to free the bonded labour. A recent study by the Government of India has revealed that several people in many States are still working as bonded labour. Therefore, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister specifically the names of those States, the number of bonded labour and what the Government is going to do to free them so that they must be free from exploitation.

Bonded labour is detected in Haryana, Bihar etc. It is a very important question.

The Minister is saying that he has given a detailed reply to every question. I want a detailed answer.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, it is a specific question. The Minister in reply to the question said that such a programme has never been seen before in the history of the world, but I notice that the Minister cannot reply at all even when specific questions are put. What is the point in giving 21 days notice if the Minister cannot give replies?

MR. SPEAKER: If you want statistics, you can ask him.

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR: There are bonded labourers in several parts of the country even now. They are being exploited. It is a different matter that there are some bonded labour here also!

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA: My submission is this that looking to the nature of the original question, the supplementary is beyond that.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA: It is a very important question and the Minister should give a reply to this question.

MR. SPEAKER: Have you read this question? If you wanted one more item could have been added "the facts thereof and the statistics thereof".

AN HON. MEMBER: Especially bonded labour system is a very important question.

News-item "Arab States may buy U.S. Arms for Pakistan"

*524. **SHRI R. L. BHATIA:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news-item 'Arab States may buy U.S. Arms for Pakistan' appearing in the *The Tribune*, Chandigarh dated 9th March, 1981; and

(b) if so, his reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All developments in our security environment are constantly analysed while updating plans for full defence preparedness at all times.

SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Sir, the Minister, in his statement, has confirmed that USA has been supplying arms to Pakistan, through that country. Now USA has come out openly and said "We have offered 2.5 billion dollars to them with regard to military and economic assistance". It is a very serious matter and the Government of India must be trying to make the US Government realise that they should not go ahead with the scheme.

May I know from the hon. Minister if they have approached the Prime Minister of Great Britain Mrs. Thatcher as well as Chancellor of FRG to suggest to the USA that they should dissuade Pakistan and not give them arms because it is a very serious matter?

I would like to know whether any effort has been made by the Government in this direction?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, what is stated in the answer is this, that the Government has seen reports in the newspapers, Government has not said that actually the arms delivery is being done. Nor has the Government denied that arms delivery is not going to be done. Now, we have confirmed that the report is seen in the newspaper. The question put to me is whether the Government has approached the Prime Minister of U.K. and the Chancellor of West Germany for persuading the USA Authorities and the Government, not to deliver the arms to Pakistan.

But this is beating about the bush. It is only yesterday the Foreign Minister stated on the floor of the House that he himself has passed on the concern felt by this Government to the Government in USA about the collection of arms by Pakistan and that no delivery should be made by that Government to Pakistan. Now, the question whether this Government has approached the Government of U.K. or Germany is a different matter. If the arms are going to be delivered by those Governments over there, the question of approaching them and telling them that this is not going to help for maintaining security and peace in the region would arise. Time and again, this Government has declared openly that supply of arms to Pakistan is not going to help in any fashion, and this is known to the Governments in U.K. and Germany also.

SHRI R. L. BHATIA: While making his statement, he has referred to some press news. My question also arises out of the press news where it has been suggested that the Indian Government was asking friendly countries to approach the U.S.A. and persuade them not to give arms to Pakistan. If you do not want to answer, I do not insist on that.

My second question is whether U.S. arms supply through the Gulf countries to Pakistan poses a problem not only to this country but to the whole region, and if any direct contact has been

made by our Government with the U.S.A. asking them not to supply arms because that will upset the balance in this area.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The question is:

"... whether his attention has been drawn to the news item 'Arab States may buy U.S. arms for Pakistan' appearing in The Tribune, Chandigarh, dated 9th March, 1981. . ."

and we have answered 'Yes, Sir'. This is about the first part of the Question put by the hon. Member.

As for the second part, I have already said in my reply that the Government of India has approached the Government of U.S.A. The Foreign Minister himself said yesterday replying to the debate—and before that also—that he himself has conveyed the concern of this Government to the USA Government. He said yesterday that our Ambassador in the USA was going to meet the Secretary of State of U.S.A. yesterday only. So, in view of the information given to this House, Government is doing all that is necessary to impress upon the Government of U.S.A. that arms should not be supplied to Pakistan because that will be creating a difficult situation in this part of the region.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: May I know from the hon. Minister whether Government has approached the Arab States and whether our Government has lodged a protest with the Arab States that they should not buy arms on behalf of Pakistan, and if so, what is the reaction of the Arab States to that? In view of the reply he has given, may I know whether the Government of India will approach the USSR and other countries to buy arms for our defence?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: As far as the first part of the question is concerned, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia signed a Defence Cooperation Agreement in 1967. Under the provisions of this Agreement, Saudi Arabia makes available monetary aid for purchases

by Pakistan; in turn, Pakistan trains Saudi military personnel and has deployed some of its armed forces within Saudi Arabia. The Government of India has made it clear, very openly, time and again that arming Pakistan to its teeth is not going to help maintain peace and security in this region. Now, the question is whether we have directly approached them or not. When certain press reports appeared, Pakistan denied and Saudi Arabia also denied that Saudi Arabia is giving money to Pakistan and Pakistan is giving some military aid to Saudi Arabia. There is a denial on their part. The question is whether we can go and lodge a protest against the agreement that they have entered into. But we have been making it clear to all the countries in the world that arming Pakistan beyond a certain limit is not going to help in any fashion.

श्री मलिक एम० एम० ए० खां : अध्यक्ष महोदय, काफी दिनों से जो चर्चा हो कि अमेरिकी मदद पाकिस्तान का नष्ट करने का उद्देश्य के जरिये या डायरेक्ट यू.एस.ए. दे रहा है। तो मैं मंत्री महोदय से बात जानना चाहूंगा कि अगर यू.एस.ए. हमारे उद्देश्य के तमाम बात को न माने और पाकिस्तान की खुशामद में उस का आर्म्स देता आप अपना आर्म्स का मजबूत करने के लिए और देश की सुरक्षा के लिए क्या करते जा रहे हैं।

श्री शिवराज वो० पाटिल : आप ने पूछा है कि अगर पाकिस्तान को यू.एस.ए. टूटियार दे रहा है . . .

श्री मलिक एम० एम० ए० खां : दे रहा रहा है, इस में 'अगर' की बात नहीं है।

श्री शिवराज वो० पाटिल : हाँ हम क्या कर रहे हैं। हम ने इस सम्बन्ध में अनेक बार इस मदन में और मदन के बाहर भी कहा है कि देश की सुरक्षा के लिए जो भी कदम जरूरी है, वह हम जरूर करेंगे। हम ने यह कहा है कि हम डिप्लोमेसी का सहारा ले कर ऐसी परिस्थिति का निर्माण करना चाहते हैं, जिस की वजह से कोई जड़ई न हो। उस के बाद हम ने यह कहा

है कि हम दुनिया में ऐसा पब्लिक ओपीनियन क्रेयेट करना चाहते हैं।

श्री मलिक एम० एम० ए० खां : मेरे क्वेश्चन का यह बिल्कुल मतलब नहीं है। मैंने सीधा-साधा क्वेश्चन पूछा है और आप इधर-उधर का बात कर रहे हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप बीच में इनटरेप्ट क्यों कर रहे हैं? उनको पूरा जवाब देने दजिए।

श्री शिवराज वो० पाटिल : मैंने पूरा उत्तर नहीं दिया है और अभी आधा उत्तर ही दिया है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इन का पूरा उत्तर देने दजिए।

श्री शिवराज वो० पाटिल : पूरा उत्तर मुनन के बाद आप की बात का पूरा समाधान हो जाएगा और ऐसी बात नहीं है कि असमाधान ही रहे।

मैं यह कह रहा था कि हमारे देश की सुरक्षा के लिए सारी परिस्थितियों का ध्यान में रख कर जिस प्रकार के कदम उठाना जरूरी है, वे हम उठाएंगे। जैसा इस सदन का मत है और हिन्दुस्तान के अमन-परानन्द लोगों की मदद के लिए, जिस प्रकार के कदम उठाने की जरूरत है, उन प्रकार के कदम हमारी सरकार जरूर उठाएगी और उठा रही है और उस में आप को झक करने की कोई जरूरत नहीं है।

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jitendra Prasad. . . .

Prof K. K. Tewari.

News-Item "Pindi Making case for Supply of U.S. Arms"

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*626. PROF. K. L. TEWARI:
SHRI S. M. KRISHNA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state: