550

going to check this flow without affecting the import of capital goods and machinery in the near future?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The hon. lady Member has stated the problem and also answered it.

Shrimati Tarekshwari Sinha: But the Minister has not answered it.

Mr. Speaker: He says that the hon. Member herself has answered the question.

We shall now take up the show notice question.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I wish to say that I had given notice calling the attenion of the Defence Minister.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. We are now taking up the short notice question.

Short Notice Question and Answer

Pakistan propaganda against India

S. N. Q. No. 2 Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on the basis of an alleged secret Indo-Soviet plot, Pakistan press has started vicious propaganda against India to the effect that India has secretly negotiated with Russia the political division of Afghanistan?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The hon. Member has sent this question in Hindi. But he has put the question in English now.

Shri Raghunath Singh: I was supplied with the English version only.

Shri Jawaharlai Nehru: I do not mind. I can answer it in either or in both.

Mr. Speaker: The best thing is to answer it in English.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The statements appearing in some newspapers in Pakistan about some secret plot are entirely without the least substance or foundation. India has no secret plots or arrangements, formal or informal, with any country. The only kind of treaties we have made with other countries are treaties of friend-ship or cultural or trade treaties, which have been published. There have not been at any time any talks with any country about any secret arrangements.

The allegation made in the Pakistan press is fantastic and apparently it was intended to create ill-will between India and neighbouring countries with whom India is on terms of close friendship.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Is there any remedy to cure the Pakistan press of these periodical vicious attacks?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There may be a remedy, but it is not in our hands.

Shri Joachim Alva: May I know the formal or informal provisions of the Nehru-Liaquat Ali Pact in regard to a case wherein lying propaganda is involved on either side? Is this a case of that type?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not remember the exact wording. But I think the hon. Member is correct in saying that there was a reference in that document to attempts being made in both countries to calm down the atmosphere, so as not to do anything which would needlessly excite people.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether this kind of propaganda has had any adverse effect in Afghanistan, and if so, whether any steps have been taken by our Embassy at Kabul to counteract this propaganda?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot say what effect it might have had in the minds of some people there. I do not think that responsible people in Afghanistan attach any importance to this kind of thing. As for steps taken by us, our Embassy there always axplains anything that is necessary. I

551

do not know exactly about this particular thing, but it was so fantastic and so ridiculous that we did not think it necessary to contradict it in the Press. But as the hon. Member put a question, I had better answer it.

Shri Hem Barua: Have our Government drawn the attention of the Pakistan Government to this slanderous propaganda which is against the terms of the Nehru-Liaguat Pact?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is not only a question of the so-called Nehru: Liaquat Ali Pact, but also of various agreements arrived at under the auspices of the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan, where it is laid down specifically that there should not be attempts of this kind to increase tension between the countries, to which Pakistan agreed and we agreed. That has been repeatedly broken by Pakistan. We have drawn their attention to this on many occasions.

Shri R. R. Chettiar: Will Government bring it to the notice of the Pakistan authorities in order to prevent such misleading reports appearing in the Pakistan Press?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir. We do not propose to bring this matter before them. We have done so on many occasions.

Shri Hem Barua: Is anything being done to counteract the evil effects of this propaganda in other countries of the world in the international sphere? The Pakistan Press is indulging in alanderous propaganda against us. The germs of this propaganda reach the international sphere—I mean other countries—and some sort of feeling is created there. Do we try to counteract the evil effects of this propaganda in those countries as well?

Shri Jawaharlal Nohru: We try to counteract it in the sense of putting the true facts and contradicting wrong statements. That, of course, is done. But what effect it produces in the sainds of others often depends on those

minds being conditioned previously in a particular way.

Shri Hem Barua: Are those conditions in our favour?

Mr. Speaker: We will proceed to the next item of business.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUES-TIONS

## Plantation Companies

\*83. Shri Warior: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing

- (a) the profits made by the foreignowned and also foreign operated Plantation Companies in India during 1954-55, 1955-56 and 1956-57; and
- (b) the amount remitted overseas during each of these years?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b). The-information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

## Foreign Sweepstakes, and Lotteries

\*84. Shri Wodeyar: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of foreign bodies that are running or operating racesweepstakes and sport pools raffles and lotteries and other prize competitions in India: and
- (b) the foreign exchange lost or gained in this score annually?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Violet Alva): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House when received.

## Production of Mica

\*85. Shrimati Illa Palchoudhury: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that production of Mica in India has increased in recent years;
  - (b) if so, to what extent: