

Monday, November 14, 1966
Kartika 23, 1888(Saka)

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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Monday, November 14, 1966/Kartika
23, 1888 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Settlement of Naga Problem

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- *241. **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri Surendra Pal Singh:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Firodia:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Dr. L. M. Singhvi:
Shri R. S. Pandey:
Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:
Shri Mohan Swarup:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda:
Shri Dighe:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Kishen Pattinayak:
Shri Krishnapal Singh:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Kandar Lal:
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the underground Naga representatives have insisted on Nagaland being treated as neutral in any conflict in the region, as an important condition for a settlement of Naga problem;

(b) if so, Government's reaction to this condition; and

(c) how far the talks with Naga underground leaders have progressed so far?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) The delegation of Underground Nagas had mentioned during their last meeting with the Prime Minister, that they did not wish to do anything to hurt India's interest.

(b) The Government of India's position is well known. Government cannot agree to a status for Nagaland outside the Indian Union.

(c) There has been no special progress as the Underground delegation has not so far been able to discuss any concrete proposal which will satisfy their aspirations without disrupting the State's link with the Union.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister in her talks with the underground Naga leaders had told them that she would not insist on a settlement of the Naga problem within the framework of the Indian Constitution provided Nagaland remained within the Indian Union and, if so, may I know what will be the status of Nagaland under contemplation of the Government and whether it will have the civil and criminal law separate or whether it will have something like the set-up in Kashmir?

Shri Dinesh Singh: As I mentioned in my reply to part (c) of the question, no concrete proposals have been discussed so far. We have made it clear to them that there cannot be any settlement outside the Indian Union. The question of Constitution as such was not specifically discussed.

but if there is any agreement which takes into account any new factors, than those which have already been incorporated in the present State, then maybe it will be necessary for us to come to this House, but the essential point that we have maintained is that any settlement has to be within the Indian Union.

Shri P. C. Borooah: In view of the fact that thousands of Nagas are still undergoing military training and engaged in smuggling of arms from East Pakistan, may I know whether this matter was made clear to the Naga leaders that the continuance of the peace talks will be contingent on the breaking up of their present collusion with Pakistan and China and, if so, what was their reaction?

Shri Dinesh Singh: I replied to this question on the last occasion also; I said we had mentioned to the underground Nagas that it would be most undesirable for them to seek assistance from outside, and they said they were not seeking assistance outside.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: With the cease-fire agreement in Nagaland, it was hoped that in a relaxed atmosphere, a broad consensus would eventually emerge which will strengthen the forces of moderation and good sense in that region, may we know to what extent that hope has been fulfilled?

Shri Dinesh Singh: The fulfilment will really come in the settlement, but the hope is still there.

श्री मधु निरारे : 'टाइम्स आफ इंडिया' में 12 नवम्बर को रिपट आई है कि :

"The Prime Minister told the underground Naga delegation during talks in Delhi last month that she would not insist on a settlement being within the framework of the Indian Constitution provided the State remains within the Indian Union."

अग्रे यह कहा है कि :

"The underground Nagas, these sources pointed out, had always taken the stand that enforcement of the Indian Constitution would lead to obliteration of the Nagas as a separate ethnic and cultural entity, since its civil and criminal laws were repugnant to Naga tradition and genius."

मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इस समझौते का आधार यह होगा कि जैसे सिक्किम या भूटान का हिन्दुस्तान के साथ सम्बन्ध है उसी किस्म का सम्बन्ध नागालैंड के साथ रखने की बात आप सोच रहे हैं। यदि सोच रहे हैं तो उस के बारे में आप रुदन को कब जानकारी देंगे ?

श्री दिनेश सिंह : जी, नहीं; ऐसी कोई बात हम नहीं सोच रहे हैं।

Shri S. C. Samanta: In spite of the attitude expressed by the Naga delegation during their recent visit, may I know how and when the next meeting with the Prime Minister is going to be arranged?

Shri Dinesh Singh: The next meeting will be arranged when we hear from them that they would like to come and meet us again.

श्री म० जा० द्विवेदी : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो हथियारबन्दी की बात भारत सरकार ने स्वीकार कर ली है वह कब तक के लिये स्वीकार कर ली है, और वार्ता का दूसरा दौर इस शांति काल के दौरान होगा या उस के अवनान के बाद होगा। भारत सरकार की तरफ से इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कोशिशें की जा रही हैं ?

श्री दिनेश सिंह : यह कहना मुश्किल है कि दूसरी वार्ता कब शुरू होगी' लेकिन आज जो वार्ता पर झगड़ा रुका हुआ है, अगर नागा चाहेंगे तो हम उस को और बढ़ा देंगे।

Shri Hem Barua: In pursuance of that statement reported widely in the

newspapers that the Prime Minister has told the underground Naga leaders that she would not insist on a settlement within the framework of the Indian Constitution, may I know: (a) if Government have evaluated the possible adverse impact of a proposal like this on the functioning of those Nagas who are patriotic and nationalistic and who want to function within the framework of the Indian Constitution, and (b) whether the attention of the Government is drawn to the proceedings of the Naga underground Parliament which had its sessions very recently—and the proceedings show that the talks should continue on the basis of Nagaland becoming an independent and sovereign country—and if so, what is the reaction of the Government to this stand also?

Shri Dinesh Singh: In reply to part (b) of the question, I have made it quite clear that the Government cannot agree to a status of Nagaland outside the Indian Union. That position continues unchanged.

Shri Hem Barua: What about part (a) of my question?

Shri Dinesh Singh: I have clarified this point in reply to the first supplementary by Mr. P. C. Borooah.

Shri Hem Barua: No, Sir; here is an attempt to sidetrack the issue. My question was very definite, whether the Government, in view of the statement made by the Prime Minister and widely reported in the press that she would not insist on a settlement within the framework of the Indian Constitution, have evaluated the possible adverse effect a proposal of this sort might have on the functioning of those Nagas who are loyal, patriotic and nationalistic and who want to function within the framework of the Indian Constitution, as they have been doing now?

Shri Dinesh Singh: I appreciate the apprehension that has been expressed by the hon. member. That is why

we welcomed this opportunity of clarifying the position. I did say at the very beginning that there was no question of their not functioning within the Constitution. We all have to function within the Constitution. But should some changes be desired in the present arrangement of Nagaland, then we shall have to come to this House. That is not the question here. The most important question is that a settlement of the position in Nagaland can only be thought of in the present association with the Union.

Mr. Speaker: He has quoted the report in the press and wants to know if there is any truth in it and whether Government have considered the effect that it would have on the Nagas who are already cooperating?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri S. C. Jamir): As far as the State Government is concerned, we have made it absolutely clear that we shall not stand in the way of bringing about an amicable and satisfactory settlement which might be negotiated between the Government of India and the underground Naga leaders. There is no doubt about that. We have made it very clear that we shall not stand in their way.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you very rightly pinpointed the issue. The first thing the hon. Minister has to clarify is whether the Prime Minister has made any such commitment to the negotiating Naga leaders that she is prepared to go that far. Does the hon. Minister remember that more than a hundred times on the floor of the House we have been given the undertaking that the settlement would be within the framework of the Constitution? Is there any deviation from that, if so, for what reasons? Apart from the Nagas being disturbed, we feel perturbed about it.

Shri Dinesh Singh: No commitment has been made. There is no need for any hon. Member to feel disturbed. I have said that no specific, no concrete proposals were discussed and, therefore, there can be no specific understanding given at all except that we have said and repeated it again and again that any settlement has to be found within the Indian Union.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Not the question of Indian Union—my question was whether it has been said....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. What the hon. Members feel disturbed or perturbed about is that a report has appeared and they want a categorical statement about that whether there was any truth in the statement that appeared in the papers. That is the first thing. Then comes the other point. If there is no truth in that, that finishes the matter.

Shri Dinesh Singh: As I said in the very beginning, no such commitment has been made.

Shri A. C. Guha: The point is whether any offer was made on this that any settlement outside the Constitution would be possible. He has not replied to that.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Does the hon. Minister remember that on the floor of this House more than half-a-dozen times it has been stated that any settlement would be within the framework of the Constitution; if so, is he not prepared to repeat that or is there any departure from it? That is the whole issue. We do not feel disturbed unnecessarily. We want to clear, categorical answer on this point. It is not a party issue.

Shri Dinesh Singh: I can assure the House that we shall function within the Constitution and there is no question of our going outside the Constitution. My main point is, we must bear this in mind that we have the local government of Nagaland

functioning within the Constitution. If the underground Nagas can agree to the functioning of the State as it is laid down in the Constitution there is no question of any further talks or any other discussion. The matter ceases there. Our main point was, should they want to have any minor alterations which do not break the essential links with the Indian Union, then it will be a matter that we would have all to consider. And, if you would like me to make this commitment, if the House does not agree to our line of thinking, we can certainly do it, but I do not think it is necessary at this stage to say anything because no undertaking has been given to them.

Some hon. Members rose—

Shri Hem Barua: Sir, that is not the question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. We shall proceed to the next question. Hon. Members may seek clarification in any other matter.

Next Question—Shri H. N. Mukerjee—

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Question No. 242.

Expenditure on Indian Missions Abroad

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*242. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:**
Dr. Ranen Sen:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to reduce expenditure in the Indian Diplomatic Missions abroad; and

(b) the results so far achieved in this direction?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Budget Estimates for Indian Missions abroad were prepared....

Mr. Speaker: We have read in the papers that there have been changes in the portfolios, but the Leader of the House should tell us here what the changes are that have been made

and introduce the new Ministers. Suddenly some Ministers stand up and answer questions. We have only read in the papers.

The Leader of the House (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Sir, I express regret. I should have done it earlier. But better late than never. My hon. friend, Shri M. C. Chagla is now in charge of the Ministry of External Affairs. The Minister who was in charge of the Ministry of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, is now our Defence Minister. In place of the Home Minister, Shri Nanda, Shri Y. B. Chavan has been appointed Home Minister. The Education Ministry portfolio has been given to Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed.

श्री मधु लिमये : क्या फर्क पड़ा है ?

"Old wine in new bottle"

Mr. Speaker: We welcome you.

श्री मधु लिमये : मत्भाई शाह साहब और गणेशचन्द्र चौधरी साहब नहीं जा रहे हैं ? हमने सुना था कि प्रधान मंत्री उनको निकाल रही हैं ।

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर): आप जा रहे हैं ।

श्री मधु लिमये : मैं काहे को जाऊंगा ।

Shri M. C. Chagla: (a) Budget Estimates for Indian Missions abroad were prepared on an austerity basis and cuts varying from 5 per cent to 15 per cent were imposed to achieve economy. In addition, all Missions were instructed to economise in expenditure on staff and office maintenance.

(b) Our Missions abroad already operate at maximum economy. Any further reduction in expenditure is likely to affect their functional effectiveness. When the accounts for the financial year become available, it will be possible to assess the results.

Shri P. Venkatasubbalah: Sir there is something wrong with the translation arrangement. We are getting

only the Hindi version. We are not getting the English version at all.

Mr. Speaker: I will get it examined.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Could I know why it is that for our High Commission in London there was a scheme to have a cut representing 10 per cent of the expenditure but that cut has now been restored and we are going to spend more money on an institution which, according to Indian nationals in the United Kingdom is a very fatuous organisation?

Shri M. C. Chagla: May I point out that I have some experience of the work that is being done there? It is a very important mission. We have a large number of Indian citizens there. We want considerable publicity there and economy has got to be practised consistently with efficiency. I think it is absolutely essential that our Embassies should be able to project our policy, project our image through publicity with newspapers and with the public and London still is a very important world capital. Any undue economy would do a great deal of harm to our foreign policy.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: I have not got an answer to my question. We were told some time ago that a ten per cent cut in the expenditure of our High Commission in London was going to take place. I want to know the specific reasons why this projected economy has been given up, in spite of our difficult foreign exchange position, particularly in relation to a High Commission which, according to Indian nationals whom I had occasion to meet a few weeks ago the Indian nationals look upon as a very fatuous organisation, I repeat it.

Shri M. C. Chagla: I deprecate that remark that our High Commission in London is a very fatuous organisation. Now, my hon. friend is asking me a specific question with regard to a specific Mission. I am not in a position to answer that without notice.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Could I know if there has been an effort to have all-out economy, particularly in view of the foreign exchange position, when we have so many Embassies, Legations and God knows what other kind of contraption in different countries?

Shri M. C. Chagla: We have surveyed the work of our Missions and we have tried to effect as much economy as possible, consistently with efficiency, consistently with the fact that they should so function as to work in the interests of our country. I am sure that the High Commission in London comes within the purview of what I have already said.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: May I know whether it is a fact that the expenditure which is being incurred in various Embassies and High Commissions is not at all consistent with the importance that is attached to their work and that there is great imbalance of expenditure in some of the High Commissions, as for example the High Commission in London? If that is so, may I know whether Government proposed to introduce a rationale for expenditure that is to be incurred in all these offices, consistent with the importance of the work that is assigned to them?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I agree with my hon. friend that all our Missions should be streamlined and that we must consider the efficiency of these Missions and try to improve it. That is the effort that we are engaged in, and, I am sure, that very soon the House would be satisfied that whatever money is being spent on any particular Mission is being spent for good purpose and in the interests of the country.

श्री हुकम चन्व कछवाय : रूस में भारतीय दूतावास पर जो खर्च किया जाता है क्या यह सही है कि उसका ठीक ढंग से उपयोग नहीं किया जाता है और जितनी सहायता उसकी खर्च के लिए दी जाती है वह सारो रूस के प्रचार पर लगा दी जाती है ?

Shri M. C. Chagla: No, Sir. We have an organisation which keeps control over the expenditure of every Mission and we are very careful to see that not a paisa is spent beyond the limit and for any other purpose.

Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda: In view of the fact now stated by the hon. Minister, may I know whether he is aware of the fact that during the Pakistani aggression our High Commission in UK was not up to the mark as it ought to have been?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I am afraid, I do not agree with that criticism. It is a very big mission and it deals with many problems. It has to look after the interests of hundreds of thousands of Indians and to my knowledge it has functioned very well and efficiently.

श्री मधु लिमये : मंत्री महोदय
ज्ञान तो बारह घंटे का भी नहीं है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने कागजात से ही देखना है ।

Shri Nath Pal: It is not so much the amount that is spent but the lackadaisical manner of functioning of most of the missions, barring a few honourable exceptions, that causes anxiety to this House and the country. May I remind the hon. Minister, who is just taking the new portfolio, that the late Shri Jawaharlal Nehru had given an assurance to us in this House that in order, not to exercise that audit control, but to have a wider control he would take Parliament into confidence and a body representing both the Houses would be allowed to go and see the working of these missions? He may perhaps not know it, but I am recalling almost verbatim the words of the late Prime Minister Nehru. What does he propose to do in that regard? We know, a committee is sitting. We want to know how parliamentary control over these missions is exercised.

Shri M. C. Chagla: The working of our missions abroad is not secret.

Shri Nath Pai: Lackadaisical, I said.

Shri M. C. Chagla: Any Member of Parliament is welcome to go and see how they work. I am sure, many Members of Parliament have gone abroad and seen them. Some of them were included in the mission that went to London. If there was any criticism, they should have pointed it out to the External Affairs Ministry as to what is wrong. But I can assure this House that I will welcome any criticism which might be made with regard to the working of any mission and I will look into it myself.

Shri Nath Pai: Sir, it is not my practice to try to catch your eye a second time. I quite appreciate the noble intentions and the generous gesture that he is trying to make by saying that any criticism is welcome. That is good enough, but what I asked was slightly different.

Mr. Speaker: He does not propose, perhaps.

Shri Nath Pai: That was from the Prime Minister who was himself the External Affairs Minister.

Mr. Speaker: It is now for him to say whether there is any proposal.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: On a point of order, Sir. The Minister said, if I heard him aright, that it is open to any Member of Parliament to go and inspect any mission abroad, but is he not aware that Members of Parliament are often received not politely, courteously, let alone cordially? You have yourself complained about it. You have yourself mentioned it, I know.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Shri Joachim Alva.

Shri Joachim Alva: There are important listening posts like Yemen and Mongolia and we cannot spare either half a dozen people for Mongolia or one man for Yemen, whilst

there are over a thousand people in the Indian High Commission in London. I am sorry to say that that place is not even kept as clean as the other embassies in London. What do those people do there?

Mr. Speaker: Just now we cannot go into this question as to what number should be there in a particular mission. We can discuss it on any other occasion.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: A new broom should sweep clean.

Mr. Speaker: There should be no interference in that manner. Shrimati Savitri Nigam.

Shri Shinkre: But that part of the question regarding Yemen and Mongolia can be replied to.

Mr. Speaker: I know that. He can also put it. Why should another Member stand up and take it up? Shrimati Savitri Nigam.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: I am not against stopping the extravagance if there is any in any of the missions, but I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware or not that many missions are greatly handicapped because of lack of finances. Is something being done to provide enough finances for the smooth working of those missions? Has any such move been taken up by the Government or not?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I am being subjected to crossfire. On the one side, I am told about economy and, on the other, the hon. lady Member wants me to spend more money.

Mr. Speaker: We are talking of reduction in expenditure.

Shri Priya Gupta: There should be equity in distribution.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Pakistani Propaganda against India

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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 उस ने 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.

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*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.

Shri Maheswar Nalk: In view of the fact that old periodicals and daily newspapers have already been given their fullest requirement of newsprint, why is it that the papers are not increasing their pages or reducing their price? May I know whether Government have taken any steps so that these papers will increase their pages or reduce their price?

Shri Raj Bahadur: So far as periodicals are concerned, as I have just mentioned, we permit them to go up to 16 pages for circulation up to 10,000.

So far as dailies are concerned in fact, the demand has been the other way about namely that the number of pages should be controlled and limited. In fact, we know the entire story about it, and I need not repeat it here.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया कि विज्ञापन सब को दिया जाता है लेकिन विज्ञापन देने में काफी पक्षपात किया जाता है। जो समाचारपत्र विदेशों के गृण मानते हैं, विदेशों के समाचार छापते हैं या जो अंग्रेजी का ज्यादा उपयोग करते हैं ऐसे समाचारपत्रों को ज्यादा विज्ञापन दिया जाता है और हिन्दी भाषा के पत्रों को विज्ञापन कम दिया जाता है, क्या यह बात सही है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : जी, नहीं, यह बात सही नहीं है।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : अभी मंत्री महोदय ने "ख" भाग के उत्तर में बताया कि प्रिन्टिंग मशीनरी यहाँ बनायी जायेगी या उन का काम किया जा रहा है तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि विदेश की किस फर्म के साथ समझौता किया जा रहा है, किस के कॉलेबोरेशन में यह मद्रण यंत्र बनेंगे और मद्रण यंत्र किस प्रकार के होंगे, उनकी विशेष तैयारी कब तक पूरी हो जायगी ?

श्री राज बहादुर : प्रिन्टिंग मशीनरी के मैन्युफैक्चर का जहाँ तक संबंध है यह प्रश्न उद्योग मंत्रालय के तत्वावधान में आता है।

लेकिन मेरे इस लिस्ट मौजूद है, मैं बता सकता हूँ। काफी लम्बी चीड़ी लिस्ट है।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : मदन पटल पर रख दीजिए।

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether in view of the coming general elections, Government have made any special allotment of newsprint to the newspapers and if so, may I know the quantity of special quota?

Shri Raj Bahadur: We have made a special provision to provide for the increased demand for newsprint for the elections and a special provision of 5,000 metric tons has been made therefor.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that there are many complaints to the effect that some of the newspapers are not utilising their full quota but are selling it at blackmarket rate while the smaller ones are starving for want of newsprint, and if so, what action the hon. Minister is intending to take to see that the distribution may be properly done and this kind of malpractice may be stopped?

Shri Raj Bahadur: There are complaints of that type, but I think there is cross-fire again here also. The smaller papers say that the bigger papers are not fully utilising their entire quantity, while the bigger papers say that the smaller papers are not doing so. We try to act in each case on the basis of the results of enquiries or investigations that are made.

श्री बागड़ी : क्या मंत्री महोदय के ध्यान में यह बात है कि जो कागज कोटे के मार्फत जाता है, वह कुछ ऐसे भ्रदारे भी हैं जो ब्लैक में बेचते हैं ? अगर ऐसा है तो कितने केनेज ऐसे हैं और उन के खिलाफ क्या कार्रवाई की गई है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : ऐसी शिकायतें आती हैं तो जैसा मैंने पहले निवेदन किया, उन पर जो कुछ भी हम लोग जांच करते हैं वह की जाती है और जैसे ही वह शिकायतें प्रमाणित हो जाती हैं हम उस का कोटा कम कर देते हैं, बन्द कर देते हैं और अन्य कार्यवाही करते हैं।

Agreement with Burma Re Assets of Indians in Burma

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*246. Shri Bagri:

Shri Yashpal Singh:

Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:

Shri Surendra Pal Singh:

Dr. P. N. Khan:

Dr. M. M. Das:

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:

Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

Shri S. C. Samanta:

Shri Subodh Hansda:

Shri Liladhar Koteki:

Shri N. R. Laskar:

Shri R. Barua:

Shri R. S. Pandey:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 24 on the 25th July, 1966 and state:

(a) whether any agreement has since been arrived at with the Burmese Government regarding the movable and immovable properties of the Indians left by them there at the time of migration; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) No, Sir. The matter is still under discussion with the Burmese Government.

(b) As the discussions are of a confidential nature the disclosure of details at this stage might adversely affect their outcome.

श्री बागड़ी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, क्या मन्त्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि यह कितना पुराना सवाल है, बहुत काफी अरसा हो गया, बर्मा से हिन्दुस्तानियों के निकास का और उनकी जायदाद का

मसला तय नहीं हुआ तो किस अरसे तक यह काम हो सकेगा, कोई इसकी मियाद है जिस के आधार पर यह सोचा जा सके कि इस का कोई नतीजा निकलेगा या सिर्फ टालने वाली बात है जिससे कि कोई नतीजा नहीं निकलने वाला है ?

श्री दिनेश सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य को विश्वास दिलाता हूँ कि हमारी ओर से इसमें कोई टालने की या देर करने की कोई बात नहीं है। हम इस प्रयत्न में लगे हैं कि जल्दी से जल्दी यह मामला तय हो जाये। कई मर्तवा इसके बारे में बर्मा सरकार से बातें हुईं, यहां से लोग गये और वहा उन्होंने बातों की लेकिन अभी हम इस का कोई निर्णय नहीं कर पाये हैं इसका हमें खेद है।

श्री बागड़ी : क्या मंत्री महोदय के ज्ञान में यह चीज है कि जिन हिन्दुस्तानियों को बर्मा से निकाला गया उन में ऐसी महिलाएं भी हैं जिनकी कि खुद की जायदाद की बात तो दरकिनार उनके जेवरों वगैरह के सिलसिले में भी उनको गिरफ्तार किया गया है और यह गिरफ्तारियों की तादाद सिर्फ पुरुषों तक ही सीमित न हो कर महिलाओं तक की हुई है और कुछ तो हिन्दुस्तानी बर्मा की जेलों में मर भी गए हैं और क्या यह सत्य नहीं है कि पोद्दार नाम का एक 70 साल का बूढ़ा आदमी बर्मा की जेल में मर भी गया था ? क्या सरकार यह सब बात जानते हुए कि बर्मा हिन्दुस्तान का पड़ोसी और मित्र मुल्क होकर भी हिन्दुस्तान के लोगों के साथ ऐसा दुर्व्यवहार करे तो उस का क्या कारण है ? जहां बर्मा सरकार सख्ती कर रही है यह हिन्दुस्तान सरकार बिल्कुल असमर्थ और कमजोर है जोकि अपने हिन्दुस्तानियों की हिफाजत नहीं कर सकती ?

श्री हरि विष्णु कामत : निकम्मी सरकार है।

श्री दिनेश सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस मसले पर इस सदन में कई मर्तबा बहस हो चुकी है और आप उस से भलीभांति परिचित हैं और मेरे लिए इन सब और दोगर बातों का जल्दी से उत्तर दे देने में दिक्कत है। मैं तो यही कह सकता हूँ कि कोई नई बात माननीय सदस्य ने सामने नहीं रखी है और सब के बारे में यहां विस्तार-पूर्वक बहस हो चुकी है।

श्री बागड़ी : जेल के अन्दर आदमी मरे हैं क्या इस का आप को पता है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : श्री बागड़ी ने एक आदमी का नाम लिया पोद्दार नाम का आदमी जेल में मरा।

श्री दिनेश सिंह : मैं उनका नाम तो एकदम से नहीं बतला सकता लेकिन अध्यक्ष महोदय, अगर आप चाहेंगे तो मैं पता लगा कर बतला दूंगा।

श्री बागड़ी : मैं ने सुना नहीं क्या जवाब मंत्री जी ने दिया ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने कहा कि उसका उन्हें पता नहीं बाकी पता लगा कर आप को दे दंगे।

श्री बागड़ी : आखिर इतनी भी क्या अज्ञानता ? वे महामूर्ख हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य अपने इस शब्द को वापिस लें।

श्री बागड़ी : महामूर्ख के अपने शब्द को वापिस लेते हुए उन के लिए मैं महा अज्ञानी शब्द कहता हूँ।

Shri Priya Gupta: On a point of order. Starred question No. 246 has been admitted . . .

Shri Tyagi: On a point of order.

माननीय सदस्य ने अज्ञानी शब्द को वापिस लेते हुए महा अज्ञानी शब्द कहा है।

श्री मधु लिमये : त्यागी जी, आपने . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : श्री मधु लिमये क्यों खड़े हो रहे हैं मैं सुन तो रहा हूँ।

Shri Priya Gupta.

Shri Priya Gupta: Starred question No. 246 has been admitted after scrutiny and knowing full well that supplementary questions of this type can be asked. Therefore, how could the Minister say that this question is not admissible and cannot be answered? If what he contends is correct, why has this been accepted?

Mr. Speaker: He does not say that. This is no point of order.

Shri Priya Gupta: He said he could not reply to the question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. All this is unnecessary.

श्री यज्ञपाल सिंह : बर्मा कोई करार करे या न करे क्या सरकार यह बतला सकती है कि जो हमारे भारतीय भाई उजड़ कर आये हैं उनको किस तरह से मुआवजा दिया जाय ? कितने भाई ऐसे हैं जो बस चके हैं और कितने ऐसे हैं जिनका कि पुनर्वास नहीं हो सका है ? जो लोग वहां बहुत बड़ी-बड़ी जायदादें छोड़कर आए हैं उन को बर्मा सरकार अपने कब्जे में कर रही है तो उन लोगों को यहां किस तरीके से मुआविजा दिया जाएगा ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : ठाकुर साहब अब यह दूसरा सवाल आ गया। क्या मंत्री जी इसका जवाब दे सकते हैं ?

श्री दिनेश सिंह : किस तरीके से हम यहां उनके बसाने के लिए अपनी तरफ से मदद कर रहे हैं उसका पूर्ण विवरण सदन के पटल पर मैं पिछले सेशन में रख चुका हूँ।

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: What are the main reasons for the unpopularity of Indians in Burma and why they

are being forced to leave that country?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब अनपापुलैरिटी के रीजंस में जाना बेसूद है ।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : जो भारतीय बर्मा से वापिस आये हैं वे दो प्रकार की सम्पत्ति छोड़कर आए हैं एक चल और दूसरी अचल सम्पत्ति तो क्या सरकार के पास बर्मा सरकार के सूत्रों से या जो वहां से लोग आये हैं उनकी जानकारी से कोई ऐसी इतिला मौजूद है, सरकार ने कोई ऐसी सूची बनाई है कि चल सम्पत्ति कितनी है और अचल सम्पत्ति कितनी है और बर्मा सरकार ने किन सिद्धान्तों को माना है ? वह मुआबिजा देगी या नहीं देगी ? बाकी सारी बातों में नहीं जानना चाहता लेकिन जो अभी तक उस ने मान लिया है वह मैं जानना चाहता हूँ ?

श्री दिनेश सिंह : अभी तक कोई बात मानी नहीं गयी है पूरी बातों पर बहस हो रही है । बाकी जो माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि दो प्रकार की सम्पत्ति है एक चल और दूसरी अचल सम्पत्ति तो यह जो बहस हो रही है यह ज्यादा अचल सम्पत्ति के ऊपर है । चल सम्पत्ति के बारे में तो इस सदन को पूरा हाल मालूम है ।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : चल और अचल सम्पत्ति कितनी है उस की बात नहीं बताई ।

श्री दिनेश सिंह : चल और अचल सम्पत्ति मैं ने अर्ज किया कि दोनों के बारे में बातें चल रही हैं ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह कितनी है ?

श्री दिनेश सिंह : अब वह कितनी है यह मेरे लिए अभी कहना मुश्किल है ।

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not fact that most of the movable properties were kept in the India Embassy there; if so, why cannot Government give us an approximate value of the things?

Shri Dinesh Singh: The main point, as I pointed out on the last occasion, is that the people who have left their property behind have given us a general assessment of their property. We have some assessment of it. The Burmese Government have some assessment of it. They are not all exactly the same. It is not desirable at this stage for us to say what we consider is the real value, because we have no reason to say that the value indicated by the people who have left property behind is not correct. It is a question of a final settlement.

Shri Kapur Singh: Are Government aware of any cases in which Indians, in their anxiety to save their assets, accepted Burmese nationality and as a consequence are rotting in Burmese jails ever since; if so, are Government in a position to take any steps to alleviate their predicament?

Shri Dinesh Singh: I beg of the hon. Member not to make such unfair charges about Indians abroad.

Shri Kapur Singh: I have definite cases in my view, I know the facts.

Shri Dinesh Singh: The hon. Member may allow me to finish. He has said that Indians have accepted Burmese citizenship just to save their property. That is wholly wrong. Those who have accepted Burmese citizenship are those who wanted to live in Burma.

Shri Kapur Singh: He has not answered the material portion of the question, he has gone into the motives of those who accepted Burmese nationality. The essence of the question was this. Those Indians who accepted Burmese nationality, whatever their motives, are now rotting in Burmese jails. Is the Government in a position to do anything to alleviate their predicament? He has sidetracked the question.

Shri Dinesh Singh: I would beg of the hon. Member to consider how we can intervene in the relationship between a citizen and the State there.

Would he like it if anyone from outside intervened in what we did with our citizens here?

Shri R. Barua: What is the total number of Indians coming from there, and what is the proportion of businessmen out of them?

Shri Dinesh Singh: Some of these details have already been supplied to the House. I cannot say off-hand the ratio.

Shri Priya Gupta: May I know whether the Ministry of External Affairs has information that the whole trouble of bad relations of the Burmese and Indian Governments started by virtue of the fact of the bad behaviour by Indian capitalists in Burma who wanted to exploit that country and take the money back from there, and the External Affairs representatives in Burma did not care to maintain good relations with Burma?

Mr. Speaker: Is any interest of our nation served by such a question?

Shri Priya Gupta: Does not matter, internationally it will serve.

Mr. Speaker: We ought to consider before putting questions whether the questions that we put really advance our national interest.

Next question.

Supply of Fighter Planes by U.S.A. to Iran

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*248. **Shri Surendra Pal Singh:**

Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:

Shrimati Savitri Nigams:

Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the latest U.S. move to sell a large number of supersonic fighter interceptor planes and air-to-air missiles to Iran;

(b) if so, whether Government have sought any assurance from the U.S. Government to the effect that these planes and missiles will not find their way to Pakistan; and

(c) if so, whether that assurance has been given by the U.S. Government?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Government are aware that U.S. Government are supplying some Supersonic fighter aircraft to Iran. There are unconfirmed reports that Iran has approached the U.S. for supply of air-to-air missiles also.

(b) and (c). We have consistently drawn the U.S. Government's attention to the dangers inherent in Pakistan's determined arms build-up, including the danger that American armaments might find their way to Pakistan through third countries. It has been made clear to us that any arms supplied either on credit or as grant by the United States, cannot be transferred to any third country without their clearance. We understand that the U.S. insists on the fulfilment of this condition and we, therefore, trust that U.S. armaments supplied to third countries will not find their way to Pakistan.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: While we welcome the assurance of the United States Government in this regard that these arms would not find their way to Pakistan. But what guarantee is there to prevent Iran from handing over these fighter planes and missiles to Pakistan through some other country?

Shri M. C. Chagla: If Iran gets any arms from the USA and hands them over to Pakistan, it would be a clear breach of the terms on which these arms were supplied by the USA. We certainly took up that matter with the U.S. Government and we have a clear and specific assurance that any arms supplied to any country cannot be transferred to any other country without the concurrence of the U.S. Government.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Is it not a fact that of late the USA with the co-operation and consent of the UK are making efforts to bring Pakistan and Iran together to boost up their military strength so that the two coun-

tries together can be a bulwark in the gulf area when Britain withdraws from that area in 1968 and that this development tips the scales in favour of Pakistan if any conflict between India and Pakistan arises in future? May we know if this aspect was brought to the notice of the USA and, if so, what has been their reaction?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I sincerely hope and trust that the apprehensions of the hon. Member have no foundation. But we have been constantly impressing upon the USA the dangers of arming up Pakistan and what the result of such an event would be.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: We have had this experience ourselves that in spite of several guarantees and assurances given by the U.S. Government, the American bases in Paistan were used against us and sabre jets found their way to Pakistan through many countries. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister thinks that these guarantees are enough, and if not why this question of not allowing any country to sell these dangerous war weapons to the other countries was not brought up in the Disarmament Commission meetings?

Shri M. C. Chagla: Diplomatically when one gets an assurance from a country, one must take up the position that the assurance will be kept. One must normally proceed on that basis.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Once bitten, twice shy.

Shri M. C. Chagla: Otherwise, international relations become impossible. You talk to a country; you get an assurance from that country, and you must accept that assurance. If there is a breach of that assurance, you can certainly take it up with that country and point out that there has been a breach of that assurance contrary to diplomatic and international practice. As soon as we heard about the transfer of aeroplanes from Iran to Pakistan we took up a strong attitude and pointed out to the USA and other countries concerned. We have now a definite assurance from the

United States that no arms supplied to any country will be transferred to any other country without their concurrence; if it is supplied, it would be a breach of the assurance to the USA by that country. What more can India do?

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: He has not answered my question about the disarmament commission.

Mr. Speaker: Can we dictate to any country that it should not sell arms to any country?

श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धावली : क्या अमेरिका की सरकार के आश्वासनों पर राजनीतिक दृष्टि से भारत सरकार विश्वास करने को तैयार है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : श्रीर चारा क्या है ?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: From the statement made by the hon. Minister, it appears that if the bombers and other planes are to be given to Pakistan by any other country, it must have the concurrence of the USA. I want to know whether before giving the concurrence, the U.S. Government will also ask India if it will not add to the hostilities?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I am sorry; there is so much noise that I could not follow.

Mr. Speaker: Whether before giving the concurrence, the U.S. will ask India if it is not an act of hostility—

Shri S. M. Banerjee: My question is this. Kindly hear.

Mr. Speaker: He need not repeat it.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: My question is very simple, Sir. Unless concurrence is given by the USA, it will not be delivered to Pakistan. If I remember aright, that is the position. So, I want to know whether, before the concurrence to such a deal is given, that the planes will go over to Iran or to any other country and then to Pakistan, they will ask India.

Shri M. C. Chagla: Concurrence before transferring? The assurance is that it will not be transferred. So, there is no question of asking India.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Could I know if Government is not relying entirely and solely upon USA guarantees for what they are worth, and if Government are not trying, at the same time, to get into touch with foreign countries like Iran in this regard, because putting all our eggs in the USA basket be very dangerous?

Shri M. C. Chagla: We have taken up the matter with the Iran Government also. May I say that ultimately what matters is our own strength; that is what we must build up. But we have taken up the matter with all the concerned Governments.

Shri D. D. Puri: Has the Minister's attention been drawn to a press report that Iran has made over possession and control of her airport near the Pakistan-Iran border to Pakistan where the bomber aircraft said to have been returned by Pakistan to Iran are kept under Pakistan's control and that they may be available for their use against us now?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I have read that report in the newspapers: I do not know whether Indian or foreign. But as far as we know, we have had no confirmation of that report.

Shri Nath Pai: On the last occasion, the guarantee was given by no less a person than the President of the United States, President Eisenhower, to the then Prime Minister of India, the late Jawaharlal Nehru. We know what has happened to these guarantees. In the meanwhile, has the attention of the Minister been drawn to the fact that according to the latest evaluation of world-arms position made by the Institute of Strategic Studies, Pakistan has more than replenished what she had lost in her encounter with India, and what is the Government of India's reaction to it—that Pakistan has acquired these arms through countries like Iran, Saudi Arabia and others?

Shri M. C. Chagla: Our attention has been drawn to the fact that Pakistan has been going all round the world shopping for arms and is trying to build up. As I said, the only answer that we can give to Pakistan is, our own strength and build up our own army, air force—

Shri Tyagi: Are you also building up?

Shri M. C. Chagla: It is for the Defence Minister to say. But I have no doubt that we are quite aware of the danger and we are prepared to meet the danger if it ever arises.

Shri Joachim Alva: There are three factors operating in our favour in Iran. In the first place, the Shah of Iran has broken down the iron curtain between the Soviet Union and Iran and has become more friendly to Soviet Union. Secondly, The Shah is basically opposed to China. Thirdly, we have an able Ambassador who knows all about planes and aviation and who is a former Air Marshal. Therefore, why is it that we are not able to double or treble our diplomatic pressures and other activities in Iran to get results in our favour?

Shri M. C. Chagla: Our policy is to keep friendly terms with all countries. If a country wants to be friendly to India, we will certainly do what we can to advance the cause of friendship, and if Iran wants to be friendly to India, we will go all out to respond to any friendly gesture from Iran.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that there is the Minister's own admission that Pakistan has gone out on a shopping spree all over the world and that is enough reason why we should be very careful have our Government told the United States Government specifically that if she allows arms and ammunition to pass out into Iran and Iran passes them out to Pakistan, that would be considered by our Government as an unfriendly act?

Shri M. C. Chagla: If the United States sends arms to Iran or makes a

grant arms to Iran and Iran passes them out to Pakistan, certainly it would be a breach of assurance. But if, as has been rightly pointed out, Pakistan has a commercial transaction with any country, it is difficult for us to do anything.

Shri Hem Barua: I welcome the Minister's statement that it will be considered as a breach of trust. Over and above that, I want the Minister to tell USA that if it happens, this would be considered as a positive act of unfriendliness.

Mr. Speaker: Question Hour is over.

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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS

British withdrawal from Aden

*243. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether indications are available that some countries including Pakistan are actively trying to strengthen their forces in such a way that they may be in a position to fill the power vacuum which they feel may be created as a result of the British withdrawal from Aden in 1968;

(b) whether the repercussion of this on India's defence and military strategy has been studied; and

(c) if so, with what result?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) There are rumours that some countries, including Pakistan, are endeavouring to secure in one way or another a position of influence in Aden keeping in view the impending British withdrawal from the territory in 1968.

(b) and (c). Government of India is studying the situation closely and will take whatever measures are necessary.

Rocket and Rocket-Launcher used by Nagas

*249. **Shri Madhu Limaye:**
Shri Kishen Pattnayak:
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 745 on the 29th August, 1966 and state:

(a) whether the French Government have made any response to the queries made by Government through diplomatic channel or in any other way about the sale/gift/transfer of rocket and rocket-launcher of French mark which was recovered from the Naga rebels; and

(b) if so, the nature of the response/reply thereto?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) and (b). The French Embassy in India has informed us that they are still making inquiries about it.

Pak. Infiltrators

*250. **Shri Liladhar Kotoki:** Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pakistan Government have been approached in connection with the activities of Pakistani infiltrators in India;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government of Pakistan thereto; and

(c) the measures which Government have adopted to stop infiltrations?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir; they have been requested to take necessary measures urgently for effectively preventing unauthorised entry into India of persons from Pakistan particularly across the Indo-East Pakistan borders.

(b) No reply has so far been received.

(c) Vigilance along the affected borders has been increased to deal with such illegal entrants.

Netaji Jayanti

***251. Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:
Shri Hem Barua:**

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

(a) whether All India Radio will broadcast a Special programme on the 23rd January, 1967, on the occasion of the Nation-wide celebration of Netaji Jayanti;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a proposal has been made to Government that the day be observed as "Youth Day";

(d) if so, by whom; and

(e) the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement indicating the details of broadcasts planned for the occasion is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7300/66].

(c) to (e). A proposal was made to Government by the Azad Hind Fauj Association that the birth anniversary of Netaji should be observed as "Youth Day". Government have considered this proposal carefully and hold the view that the youth of the country are most intimately associated and identified with the celebrations of the National Integration Week from 2nd October to 9th October and a National Solidarity Day on 20th October and the observance of a separate 'Youth Day's as such does not seem to be quite necessary.

Status of J. & K. State in U.N. Maps

***252. Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any change in the U.N. Secretariat's atti-

tude about the status of Jammu and Kashmir from its earlier attitude that Jammu and Kashmir is a disputed territory and its future has to be determined;

(b) whether it is a fact that the issue was raised by Government in 1957, but since then there has been no change in the attitude of the U.N. Secretariat; and

(c) whether the U.N. Map still shows Jammu and Kashmir as disputed territory, inspite of the protests by the Government of India?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) to (c). In maps published by the U.N. Secretariat the Jammu and Kashmir State was shown as separated from the rest of India. The question of the exclusion of the State was taken up with the U.N. Secretariat in 1957 and on several occasions subsequently. It was discussed by our Permanent Representative with the Secretary General of the United Nations in July this year. It is understood that the U.N. Secretariat are still examining the matter.

Review of India's Defence in view of Chinese Nuclear Explosion

***253. Shrimati Vimla Devi:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 19 on the 25th July, 1966 and state:

(a) whether the Chiefs of Staff Committee has since completed the review of India's defence set-up in the light of the Chinese nuclear explosion;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the Committee in this regard; and

(c) the decision taken by Government thereon?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) The matter is still under consideration of the Chiefs of Staff Committee.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Chinese Intrusions into Sikkim and Bhutan

- *254. **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Gulshan:
Shri P. H. Bheel:
Shri Surendra Pal Singh:
Shri Maheswar Naik:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:
Shri Nath Pal:
Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
Shri Surendramath Dwivedy:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri Jagdev Singh Siddhanti:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Krishnapal Singh:
Shri Utiya:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha:
Shri Basumatri:
Shrimati Malmoona Sultan:
Shri Bade:
Shri Hukam Chand
Kachhavaia:
Shri K. C. Pant:
Shri Brij Basi Lal:
Shri Yashpal Singh:

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

(a) whether China has perpetrated numerous military intrusions into Sikkim and Bhutan during the last three months and has also encamped in the Bhutanese territory in the Doklan pasture area since the 13th September, 1966;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) and (b). During the last three months there have been three cases of Chinese intrusions across the Sikkim-Tibet border.

(1) On September 10, 1966 three Chinese soldiers intruded to a depth of

approximately 1 mile in the area South-East of Kongra La. They withdrew later on being detected.

(2) On October 24, about 150 persons in blue uniforms along with herds of sheep intruded to a depth of 500 yards across Kongra La, before withdrawing.

(3) On October 25, about 50 persons in blue uniforms intruded to a depth of 200 yards in the Kongra La area before withdrawing.

Chinese personnel have also intruded across the Bhutan-Tibet border. On the 8th September a Bhutanese patrol found Tibetan graziers in an area about 3 miles south west of Simchel La. Two heaps of loose stones were also found. On the 13th September a Bhutanese patrol found that a party of Chinese troops had intruded in the same area and had dug trenches in Bhutanese territory.

(c) Protests against the intrusions across the Sikkim-Tibet border were lodged on the 15th October and the 4th November. A Copy of the former note is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-7301/66*]. A copy of the latter note has already been placed on 8th November, 1966. On the 30th September Government of India also lodged a protest at the request and on behalf of the Royal Bhutan Government against the Chinese violation of the Bhutan-Tibet border. Copies of the note as also that of a Press statement issued on 3rd October, 1966, by the Trade Adviser to the Bhutan Government at Calcutta, are placed on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-7301/66*].

Suggestion of Philippines President about U.N. Charter

- *255. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:**
Shri K. N. Tiwary:

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

(a) whether President Marcos of the Philippines, in a speech to the U.N.

General Assembly, has demanded the revision of the U.N. Charter; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) In his address to the U.N. General Assembly on the 21st September, 1966, President Marcos of the Philippines referred to the need to consider the review and revision of the U. N. Charter to reflect the changes in the world situation which have taken place since the Charter was originally drawn up.

(b) Government share the view that there is scope for a revision and review of the U.N. Charter but consider that there is little possibility of this being brought about in the present international climate.

अण्डमान और निकोबार द्वीप समूह में नौसैनिक अड्डे

* 256. श्री मोहन स्वरूप :
श्री बागड़ी :
श्री राम सेवक यादव :
श्री यशपाल सिंह :

क्या प्रतिहक्षा मन्त्री 29 अगस्त, 1966 के अतारंकित प्रश्न संख्या 3601 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि .

(क) क्या अण्डमान और निकोबार द्वीपों में नौसैनिक अड्डे स्थापित करने की योजना को अन्तिम रूप दिया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री (श्री स्वर्णोसह) : (क) से (ग) जी नहीं। योजना के सम्पूर्ण विस्तार अभी सरकार के विचाराधीन हैं। मामले के लिए विस्तृत अध्ययन और क्षेत्र के सर्वेक्षण

की आवश्यकता है, और आशा है उसे शीघ्र ही अन्तिम रूप दिया जाएगा।

हिन्दुस्तान ऐरोनाटिक्स लिमिटेड, कानपुर में हड़ताल

* 257. श्री हुकम चन्द कछुवाय
श्री श्रीकार लाल वैरव
श्री बडे :

क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री 1 अगस्त, 1966 के अतारंकित प्रश्न संख्या 173 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) हिन्दुस्तान ऐरोनाटिक्स लिमिटेड ने अपने कर्मचारियों की मांगों के सम्बन्ध में क्या निर्णय किया है ; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इस मामले में कब निर्णय किये जाने की सम्भावना है ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री० अ० म० धामस) : (क) तथा (ख) कर्मचारियों की मुख्य मांगें एच० ए० एल० कानपुर के कार्यचालन के लिए एक उच्चस्तरी-आयोग की स्थापना; अब तक के विमान निर्माण डिपु के वैमानिकों और असैनिकों की कम्पनी कर्मचारियों के तौर पर नियुक्ति की शर्तों; वेतनमानों में संशोधन केन्द्रीय सरकार की दरों पर, मकान किराया और नगर प्रति-कर भत्तों; बोनस की आदायगी, डिपुटेशन भत्ते की आदायगी; ओवरटाइम भत्ते; और उपयुक्त परिवहन और बच्चों की शिक्षा या बच्चा भत्ते से सम्बन्धित हैं। मांगों पर समय समय पर, कर्मचारियों के प्रतिनिधियों से बातचीत की गई है। इस बातचीत के पश्चात कार्मिकों की एक भारी संख्या ने कम्पनी के कर्मचारियों के तौर पर नियुक्ति की स्वीकृति से सूचित कर दिया है।

Development or Acquisition of Nuclear Weapons by Pakistan

*258. **Shri Nath Pai:**
Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:

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

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the development or acquisition of nuclear weapons by Pakistan;

(b) whether such progress as might have been made has been achieved independently or in collaboration with some other Powers; and

(c) if so, which are the powers?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) to (c). The development and acquisition of nuclear weapons by any country is a highly secret matter. It is, therefore, not feasible to make any precise assessment of Pakistan's capabilities in this field. However, Government are not aware of the development or of acquisition from outside sources, of any nuclear weapons by Pakistan.

Funds for Film Industry

*259. **Shri Sezhiyan:**
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:

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

(a) whether Government have any proposal for creation of a special fund to help producers and film industry for good and purposeful film;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision of Government in this regard?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). The question of setting up a Producers' Fund to Partake the nature of an insurance fund to offset or miti-

gate the box-office hazards often encountered by purposive social films, is under consideration. The details of the proposal have not yet been finalised.

पूर्वी पाकिस्तान से हिन्दुओं का प्रयोजन

* 260. **श्री शिंदरे:**
श्री हुकम चन्द कश्यप:

क्या **वैदेशिक-कार्य** मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हाल में पूर्वी पाकिस्तान से लगभग 500 हिन्दू लोग पूर्वी पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों से होकर भारत में आये हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो पूर्वी पाकिस्तान में से उनके प्रयोजन के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ग) सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में क्या क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री सु० क० चागला) . (क) बताया जाता है कि पूर्व पाकिस्तान के अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के लोग पूर्वी पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों को पार करके असम में आते रहे हैं। मुलभ सूचना के अनुसार 1 जनवरी से 31 अक्टूबर, 1966 के बीच कुल मिला कर 1279 लोग इस तरह आए हैं।

(ख) इसके अनेक कारण हो सकते हैं लेकिन इन लोगों के आने का प्रमुख कारण यह है कि पाकिस्तान में अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के लोगों के साथ आम तौर से बुरा बर्ताव किया जाता है।

(ग) जो व्यक्ति प्रवास प्रमाण-पत्र लेकर आते हैं, उन्हें भारत में रहने दिया जाता है और अन्य व्यक्तियों के मामलों पर तदर्थ आधार पर उनके गुण-दोषों को ध्यान में रखते हुए विचार किया जाता है।

Boundary between China and Bhutan

***261. Dr. L. M. Singhvi:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Kindar Lal:**

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

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the Communist Chinese claim that the boundary between China and Bhutan was a matter for China and Bhutan to settle;

(b) if so, the position of Government in this respect; and

(c) whether Government have taken steps to apprise friendly foreign Governments of these developments and if so, with what effect?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Treaty of 1949 between India and Bhutan, the Government of Bhutan agreed to be guided in its external relations by the advice of the Government of India. The Chinese Government had recognised this position as evidenced by Prime Minister Chou En-lai's statement at a press conference in New Delhi on April 25, 1960 that "China respects the relations between India and Sikkim and Bhutan".

Government regret that the Government of People's Republic of China should want to undermine the traditional relations between Bhutan and India which are happily so close and friendly.

(c) Friendly Governments have been kept informed of these developments in the normal course and they appreciate our stand.

Nuclear Guided Missile Explosion by China

***262. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Dr. L. M. Singhvi:
Shri D. C. Sharma:**

**Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Kindar Lal:
Shri Nath Pai:**

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the nature of recent explosion of guided missile with Nuclear-head by China;

(b) the implications of this development and effective steps proposed to be taken by Government to allay fears from this threat; and

(c) Government's reaction to U.S.A.'s proposal for safety of non-nuclear powers?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) Yes, Sir. The explosion was detected by our own devices when it took place. Samples of radioactive material collected from our aircraft indicate that the main radioactive cloud was carried eastwards reaching over Japan in about 36 to 48 hours.

(b) This development has not come as a surprise to us. China's policy of manufacturing nuclear weapons poses a grave danger not only to us but to the whole of Asia, and indeed the world.

As has already been announced, the Chiefs of Staff Committee are making a full study of the implication of Chinese nuclear capacity on our own defences.

(c) Government are not aware of any specific U.S. proposal for the safety of non-nuclear powers.

Use of Toxic Chemicals by Americans in Vietnam

***263. Shri H. N. Mukerjee,
Dr. Ranen Sen:**

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

(a) whether North Vietnam has lodged any complaint with the International Control Commission in

Vietnam against the use of toxic chemicals by U.S.A. on civilian population in Vietnam;

(b) whether the Commission has made any investigation into the complaint;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) the action taken thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) It is understood that the International Commission has received complaints from the People's Army of North Vietnam about the alleged use of toxic chemicals and gases by the United States of America in South Vietnam.

(b) to (d). The Commission sends reports of its activities to the Co-Chairman of the Geneva Conference. No report has been received by the Government of India so far.

Soviet Charge against I.C.C.

***264. Shri Shree Narayan Das:**

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Soviet Co-Chairman of the Geneva Conference on Laos has levelled the charge that the International Control Commission in Laos has committed procedural violations recently;

(b) if so, the circumstances in which this has been done;

(c) the nature of procedural violations; and

(d) the reaction of the Government of India as Chairman of the I.C.C.?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) to (c). The I.C.C. in Laos by India-Canada majority sent a letter to the Co-Chairman of the Geneva Conference in accordance with article 8 of the Protocol to the Declaration on the Neutrality of Laos, seeking advice and guidance in a case relating to a complaint made by

the Royal Laotian Government, as the Commission had reached an impasse in its deliberations on the issue. The Soviet Co-chairman in a communication to the three Supervisory Powers said that the sending of such a letter violated the Geneva Agreement of 1962, that the Commission's conclusions on important matters and its recommendations sent to the Co-Chairman should be arrived at unanimously, and that the Commission should act with the agreement of the coalition Government in Laos consisting of representatives of the 3 political forces in the country.

(d) The matter is under consideration.

South West Africa

***265. Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**

Shri B. K. Das:

Shrimati Savitri Nigam:

Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:

Shri P. C. Borooah:

Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

Shri Subodh Handa:

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:

Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Afro-Asian Delegation sponsored a Resolution in the United Nations, demanding the termination of the mandate to South Africa over South-West Africa and its transference to the U. N. Trusteeship Council; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

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

(b) The U.N. General Assembly adopted the resolution No. 2145 (XXI) on the 27th October, 1966 by 114 votes to 2 with 3 abstentions, terminating South Africa's mandate over South West Africa and placing that territory under the direct responsibility of the United Nations. The Resolution also decided to establish an *ad hoc* Committee compos-

ed of 14 Member States to recommend practical means for the administration etc. of South West Africa till the territory attains independence.

Statement of former Foreign Minister of Pakistan

*266. **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported statement of the former Foreign Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Z. A. Bhutto, claiming parts of Assam and Tripura for Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether Government have received any official claim in that regard; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Government have seen items to the effect that Mr. Z. A. Bhutto, former Foreign Minister of Pakistan, made a speech at London before a gathering of Pakistan Students' Federation in Great Britain on 13th August, 1966, in which he reportedly mentioned, *inter alia* that Pakistan has rights in eastern parts of Pakistan on northern border which he will spell out in detail one day.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. Government cannot give too much attention to wild and fantastic claims of this nature made by persons not in office.

HF-24 Jets

*267. **Shri Surendra Pal Singh:**
Dr. P. N. Khan:
Dr. M. M. Das:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shrimati Vimla Devi:
Shri Bagri:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Nath Pai:
Shri Sudrendranath Dwivedy:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
Shri Utiya:
Shri Ramachandra Mallick:
Shri Sudhansu Das:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 22 on the 25th July, 1966 and state:

(a) the outcome of the flight tests carried out by the U.A.R. experts on the HF-24 prototype airframe;

(b) whether the tests have been successful; and

(c) if so, the prospects of the two countries joining hands and making a complete success of this venture?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). Initial ground tests on HF-24 aircraft with the UAR E. 300 engine have been carried out. As a result some development work on the engine/airframe combination became necessary. Further ground and flight tests are expected to be carried out shortly.

(c) Further steps for collaboration between UAR and India would be considered on the successful completion of flight tests.

Scheme for Asian Unity and Development

*268. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**
Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:
Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2904 on the 22nd August, 1966 and state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme of Asian Unity and Development for eradicating poverty and communicated the same to other Asian Countries threatened by Chinese expansionism;

(b) if so, the reaction of those countries thereto; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In the reply to the Unstarred Question No. 2904 on the 22nd August, 1966, the opinion was expressed that Asian unity and development for eradicating poverty ought to be the common objective of the peoples of Asia, as distinct from the approach of military alliances and ideological blocks. India is already participating in regional development programmes under the ECAFE and the Colombo Plan and is also a member of the Asian Development Bank. It is hoped that these programmes will eventually help in the promotion of Asian development and unity. The Government have not formulated any other scheme.

Military Collaboration between Pakistan and China

***269. Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are cognization of the fact that military collaboration between the Communist China and Pakistan continues to be close;

(b) whether Government are aware that military supplies, weapons, equipment and vehicles have been sent to Pakistan in considerable quantities in the last two months; and

(c) the diplomatic and defensive measures which have been made to disseminate information about these transactions which pose a threat to the security of India?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The procurement of military supplies from China by Pakistan is a continuous process. Reports of acqui-

sition by Pakistan of anti-aircraft guns and other miscellaneous equipment, including vehicles, in recent months have been received.

(c) Appropriate diplomatic action has been taken to disseminate information on Sino-Pak collusion. Government are also fully alive to the danger arising from such military collaboration and are taking appropriate measures.

Airport in Chamoli District, U.P.

1209. Shri Sivamurthi Swamy: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have chosen any site for an airport for defence purposes in District Chamoli, U.P.; and

(b) if so, the name of the place so chosen?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

नेपाल के साथ भारत का सहयोग

1210. श्री किशन पटनायक :
श्री मधु लिमये :

नया बंबेशिक-कार्य मन्त्री 9 मई, 1966 के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 1541 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) चौथी पंचवर्षीय योजना में नेपाल सरकार किन-किन योजनाओं के लिये भारत का सहयोग लेना चाहती है ; और

(ख) क्या नेपाल सरकार की सलाह से इस सम्बन्ध में कोई निर्णय किया गया है ?

बंबेशिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री मु० क० चागला) : (क) और (ख). नेपाल में आर्थिक क्षेत्र में हमारे सहयोग कार्यक्रम की जितनी भी योजनाएं और परियोजनाएं हैं वे सब नेपाल की सलाह से ही शुरू की जाती

हैं अथवा चलाई जाती हैं। इस कार्यक्रम के लिए 40 करोड़ रुपये की राशि नियत की गई है, जो कमोबेश पूरी चौथी योजना अवधि के लिए है। तीसरी योजना की अवधि में जिन विभिन्न योजनाओं और परियोजनाओं पर कार्य चल रहा था उन पर काम चलता रहेगा और चौथी योजना अवधि में कुछ नए कार्य भी शुरु किए जाएंगे। नदनों की मेज पर धीरे रखे गये हैं [पुस्तकालय में रखे गये, देखिये संख्या LT—7302/66] जिनमें वे महत्वपूर्ण परियोजनाएं और योजनाएं बताई गई हैं जिन पर नेपाल सरकार का सलाह से चौथी योजना अवधि में काम चलता रहेगा अथवा जिनके शुरु किए जाने की सम्भावना है।

रोडेगिया के विरुद्ध बल प्रयोग

1211. श्री किशन पटनायक :
श्री मधु लिमये :

क्या वंडेशिक-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राष्ट्रमण्डल सम्मेलन के समय भारत के प्रतिनिधि ने अफ्रीकी प्रतिनिधियों से इस बारे में अनौपचारिक बातचीत की थी कि यदि ब्रिटेन ने रोडेगिया के विरुद्ध बल प्रयोग करने से इंकार कर दिया तो उनकी क्या प्रतिक्रिया होगी; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका क्या परिणाम रहा है ?

वंडेशिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री मु० क० चागला) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) हाल के राष्ट्रमण्डल प्रधान मंत्री सम्मेलन में, भारतीय प्रतिनिधि मण्डल के नेता अफ्रो-एशियाई तथा अन्य प्रतिनिधि मण्डलों के निकट सम्पर्क में रहे। जो ग्राम राय प्रकट हुईं, वह सम्मिलित विज्ञप्ति में शामिल कर दी गई जिसमें यह कहा गया

कि रोडेगिया में विद्रोह को जल्दी समाप्त करने की दृष्टि से "राष्ट्रमण्डल के अधिकांश सरकार प्रमुखों ने एककी तोर पर यह मत व्यक्त किया कि रोडेगिया के अवैध शासन को समाप्त करने का एकमात्र निश्चित तरीका बल प्रयोग है। लेकिन, अन्य देशों ने एक संवैधानिक निर्णय को लादने के लिए बल प्रयोग करने पर ब्रिटिश सरकार की आपत्ति को माना और इस पर सहमति प्रकट की कि विधि-व्यवस्था बनाए रखने के लिए जहां कहीं आवश्यक हो, बल का प्रयोग किया जाए।" चूंकि ब्रिटिश सरकार का उपर्युक्त मत अल्पमत था, इसलिए सम्मेलन ने विचार किया कि अगर ब्रिटिश सरकार द्वारा ग्राह्यकारी शासन के साथ प्रस्तावित बातचीत का वांछित परिणाम न निकला तो क्या-क्या कार्रवाई की जाएगी। इस सम्बन्ध में "अधिकांश देश इसमें भागवस्त थे कि संयुक्त राष्ट्र चार्टर के अध्याय VII के अनुच्छेद 41 और 42 के अन्तर्गत, सामान्य तथा व्यापक प्रकार के आदेशात्मक प्रतिबन्ध लगाए जाने चाहिए और इसमें आयात तथा निर्यात को भी शामिल कर लिया जाए।" ब्रिटिश सरकार ने इस मत को नहीं माना लेकिन वह "इस वर्ष के अन्त से पहले संयुक्त राष्ट्र की सुरक्षा परिषद में एक प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत करने में सम्मिलित होने को तैयार है, जिसमें रोडेगिया के विरुद्ध प्रभावकारी और विशिष्ट आदेशात्मक आर्थिक प्रतिबन्ध लगाने की व्यवस्था हो।"

हिन्दुस्तानी के माध्यम से नेपाल के साथ राजनैतिक सम्बन्ध

1212. श्री किशन पटनायक :
श्री मधु लिमये :

क्या वंडेशिक-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार हिन्दुस्तानी भाषा के माध्यम से नेपाल सरकार के साथ अपने राजनैतिक सम्बन्ध बनाये रखने के प्रस्ताव को कार्य रूप दे रही है; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं।

विदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री श्री ० क० चागला) : (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) हम अभी इस स्थिति में नहीं हैं कि नेपाल अथवा किमी अन्य देश के साथ हिन्दी में राजनैतिक कार्य का संचालन करें। इसका कारण यह है कि हमारे पास हिन्दी का पर्याप्त ज्ञान रखने वाले अधिकारियों और कर्मचारियों की कमी है और इसके परिणामस्वरूप हम हिन्दी में अपने आपको ठीक-ठीक अभिव्यक्त करने में असमर्थ हैं। विदेश मन्त्रालय में तथा विदेश-स्थित मिशनों में तबदीलियां अकमर होती हैं, इसलिए किन्हीं खास मिशनों में ही हिन्दी जानने वाले अफसरों को नियुक्त करना सम्भव नहीं है और त ही यह सम्भव है कि किमी एक प्रकार को उसके हिन्दी के ज्ञान के कारण लम्बे अरसे तक एक ही राजदूतावास में रखा जाए। किमी एक विशेष मिशन द्वारा हिन्दी में काम करने से मन्त्रालय के विभिन्न अनुभागों का तथा विदेश-स्थित अन्य मिशनों को उस राजदूतावास के साथ पत्र व्यवहार करने में कठिनाइयां भी पैदा होंगी।

Organisation of Asian and Pacific Council

1213. Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri P. C. Borooah:

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

(a) the precise and definite objectives and programme of the Organisation of Asian and Pacific Council;

(b) whether India was approached by its Organisers to associate with this Organisation; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) A meeting was held in Seoul from June 14 to 16, 1966, attended by Australia, Taiwan,

Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand and South Vietnam. Laos attended as Observer. The meeting was called the First Ministerial Meeting for Asian and Pacific Cooperation. According to the Joint Communique, the objectives and programme of this Council are active and fruitful co-operation among participating countries in the "economic, technical, cultural, social and information fields". The communique also referred to political questions like those of Vietnam and Korea, generally supporting the stand taken by the Republic of Vietnam and the Republic of Korea.

(b) There were some diplomatic feelers.

(c) The Government of India did not participate in the meeting of the Asian and Pacific Council in Seoul because the Government of India is interested in promoting regional co-operation in Asia on a wider basis like that of the Colombo Plan, **ECAFE** and the Asian Development Bank than on the basis of political groupings.

Expertise for handling External Publicity

1214. Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the suggestion that his Ministry should develop the expertise to handle publicity specially through such media as television, radio and advertising has been considered by Government;

(b) if so, with what result;

(c) whether the question of imparting regular training to the Information Servicemen has been considered; and

(d) if so, the decision arrived at?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b). Such suggestions have come from

time to time. However, it is felt that the arrangement is more suitable.

(c) and (d). For new officers a familiarisation training is given at headquarters before they are sent to Information Posts in Missions abroad. This training is arranged in liaison with the media units of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry. It also covers all activities of the External Publicity Division and includes "Bharat Darshan" tours.

Boundary Pillars on Indo-Pak Border

**1215. Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Kindar Lal:**

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decision taken at the two-day meeting of Indo-Pak Survey Officials held in August, 1966 that there should be a permanent set-up in the two countries for the maintenance and replacement of boundary pillars has been implemented;

(b) the latest position with regard to the demarcation of boundary between West Bengal and East Pakistan; and

(c) the number of times Pakistan have intruded into the Indian territory during the last six months?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) to (c). The Director, Land Records and Surveys, West Bengal, has agreed to the set-up and he will discuss the matter further with regard to the staff etc. at the next joint meeting of the Indo-Pak. D.L.R.S's responsible for demarcating the Bengal boundary.

On the West Bengal-East Pakistan border joint survey and demarcation in the Char area bordering Mauza Manik Chak between Murshidabad (West Bengal) and Rajshahi (East Pakistan) was taken up and completed on 20th June, 1966.

Thus, out of the total length of approximately 1349.00 miles West

Bengal-East Pakistan boundary, 1079.00 miles have already been demarcated by construction of pillars; 97.07 miles represent the length of fluid boundary which requires no physical demarcation; and 78.37 miles are covered by the Bagge Lines I & II where annual demarcation is done. This leaves a length of 94.62 miles which is still undemarcated on the ground. The Directors of Land Records and Surveys, West Bengal and East Pakistan are meeting periodically to discuss demarcation matters.

During the six months ending 31st October, 1966, the number of times personnel of the Pakistan forces and Pakistani policemen trespassed across the border into Indian territory was as follows:

Across Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujrat, West Bengal, Assam and Tripura borders .. 21 times.

Across the Cease Fire Line and the international boundary in Jammu and Kashmir.... 33 times

Compensation to Dependents of those killed by Pak, Infiltrators

**1216. Shri R. Barua:
Shri Liladhar Kotoki:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether full compensation has been granted to the dependents of army personnel, police personnel and civilians killed in action with Pakistani infiltrators during the Indo-Pak conflict; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). In so far as army personnel and Defence civilians are concerned, no separate statistics are kept to show how many personnel were killed in action with Pakistani infiltrators during the Indo-Pak conflict. However, no distinction is made in the matter of grant of special family pensionary awards in respect of such personnel and those

killed in action on the front in the operations against Pakistan on or after 5th August, 1965. In so far as civilians in Border Roads Organisation are concerned, one officer and 9 subordinates were killed. Pension papers in respect of the civilian officer have been completed and sanction for pension is being issued. Pension papers in respect of 3 subordinates have also been completed and sanction for pension in their cases also will be issued shortly. In regard to remaining 6 cases, verification by civil authority is in progress.

Information in respect of Police personnel and civilians is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Loans to News Agencies

- 1217. Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri J. B. S. Bist:
Shri Utiya:
Shri Kishen Pattinayak:
Shri Madhu Limaye:

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

(a) whether Government have advanced interest free loans to the *Samachar Bharati* and also to any other news agency;

(b) if so, to what extent to each agency;

(c) the considerations on the basis of which interest free loans were granted; and

(d) whether it will not involve any Government control on the agencies concerned in violation of the policy to promote free Press in India?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A proposal to advance an interest free loan of Rs. 5 lakhs to *Samachar Bharati* is at present under consideration of the Government. There is no proposal to grant any similar loans for floating any other News Agency;

(c) Having regard to the need for setting up a News Agency in Indian

languages to cater to the requirements of small, medium and language newspapers and the non-availability of the required private capital in view of the uneconomic aspect of business, the proposal to grant interest-free loan, would be justifiable.

(d) No, Sir. Since Government do not propose to subscribe to equity capital of the company, the question of any control does not arise.

Research Cell to improve Border Publicity

- 1218. Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a research cell is being set up in the Directorate of Field Publicity to improve border publicity;

(b) if so, its precise constitution and functions; and

(c) where the cell will have its headquarters?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Raj Bahadur) (a) to (c). It is proposed to set up a Research Cell but a final decision in the matter is yet to be taken.

Anti-Indian Speeches by Indian Writers in Afro-Asian Writers Conference

1219. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two Indian writers made anti-Indian statements at the Afro-Asian Writers' conference held recently in Peking;

(b) if so, the names and addresses of those writers; and

(c) the precise details of the anti-Indian statements made by them?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b). Two British citizens of Indian descent attended the Afro-Asian Writers' Conference held in July in Peking and made anti-Indian and pro-Chinese statements. They were Mr. Abhimanyu Manchanda and Mr. Teja Singh Sahota. They are permanently resident in Britain and are British citizens.

(c) Mr. Manchanda was reported to have blamed the Government of India for the border question as well as the Kashmir issue. He praised the Chinese Government for its "patience" with the "Indian reactionaries" on the border question and expressed his "gratitude" to Peking "on behalf of the Indian delegation and the anti-imperialist and patriotic Indian writers".

Mr. Sahota in a speech over Radio Peking praised Mao Tse-tung and the "Great Cultural Revolution".

Forced Landing of I.A.F. Helicopter at Dimapur

**1220. Shri Bagri:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3616 on the 29th August, 1966 and state:

(a) whether the report regarding the causes of the I.A.F. Helicopter's forced landing at Dimapur on the 31st July, 1966 has since been received by Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Court of Inquiry came to the following conclusions:—

(i) The Pilot of the Helicopter was competent to carry out the flight.

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- (ii) The Helicopter was fully serviceable and had been correctly loaded.
- (iii) The flight was correctly authorised and briefed.
- (iv) The accident occurred due to engine failure.
- (v) No one is directly or indirectly responsible for the accident.

General Reserve Engineer Force

**1221. Shri Bagri:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3620 on the 29th August, 1966 regarding the General Reserve Engineering Force and state:

(a) whether the matter has since been considered by Government;

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(c) when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) Yes. It has been decided to create a permanent cadre in the General Reserve Engineer Force. The number of posts, which will be declared as permanent, have also been assessed.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Truck accident on Dehra Dun-Hardwar Highway

**1222. Shri Bagri:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3659 on the 29th August, 1966 regarding the truck accident on Dehra Dun-Hardwar Highway and state:

(a) whether the report with regard to the causes of the accident has since been received by Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). The report of Inquiry Committee is still awaited. The Military authorities have been instructed to expedite it.

Uranium Oxide Plant

1223. **Dr. M. M. Das:**
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the preliminary project report of the uranium Oxide plant has been considered by **Government**;

(b) if so, whether the sanction for the project has been issued;

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay, and

(d) whether the production of this plant will make India self-sufficient so far fuel for the reactor is concerned?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) and (b). The project report on the Uranium Oxide Plant was considered and approved by the Atomic Energy Commission.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) This Plant will be one of the proposed Complex of Plants for processing from the stage of uranium concentrates to finished fuel elements for CANDU type reactors under construction and planned for generating nuclear power. The completion and commissioning of this Complex will make India self-sufficient in fuel for the reactors.

Pay and Allowances of Civilian Employees in Defence Installations

1224. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Daji:

Will the **Minister of Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that **Government** were examining the question of improving the pay and allowances including increments of civilian employees working in various Defence installations;

(b) if so, whether any Committee has been constituted for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the composition of the Committee and its terms of reference?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) The general question of improvement in pay and allowances for the various civilian posts in Defence establishments has not been under consideration. But improvement in the scales of pay has been sanctioned in respect of certain categories of posts from time to time, after *ad hoc* departmental examination.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Clothing Factories

1225. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Daji:

Will the **Minister of Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that clothing factories under his Ministry are having less work because of competition from the private sector;

(b) if so, the number of items handed over to the private sector;

(c) the reason therefor; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that 20,000 items, which could be manufactured in the ordnance factories, are being handed over to the private sector?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) No, Sir. Defence requirements are released to the Private Sector only when they are beyond the capacity of Ordnance Factories.

(b) and (c). Do not arise, as far as clothing factories are concerned.

(d) No, Sir. No item of general stores and clothing which could be manufactured by the Ordnance Factories has been off-loaded to the Private sector.

Alloy Steel Plant, Kanpur

**1226. Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Daji:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether a final decision has been taken to have a special Alloy Steel Plant at Kanpur under his Ministry; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) and (b). The present proposal is for modernising the facilities available for Alloy Steel production at Kanpur. The final scope and pattern of facilities to be set up will be determined with reference to the capabilities that we may be able to develop in other steel plants. It is not at present intended to have a special plant at Kanpur.

Satellite Communication System

**1227. Dr. P. N. Khan.
Dr. M. M. Das:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Centre which will track satellites in orbit and conduct training and investigations in satellite communication techniques has been established at Ahmedabad;

(b) if so, the functions of this Centre; and

(c) whether any financial and technical assistance have been received in the form of experts and equipments from the United Nations in setting up this Centre?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi):

(a) to (c). An Experimental Satellite Communication Earth Station (ESCES) is being set up in Ahmedabad with financial and technical assistance provided by the United Nations Special Fund through the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), which is the Executive Agency for the Project.

(b) The purpose of the Project is the establishment and initial operation of a centre mainly for research and training in the technology of satellite communication, particularly with reference to earth stations. The Centre will *inter alia* participate in practical tests and conduct training and investigations in satellite communication techniques and provide training to Indian and foreign engineers, scientists and technicians in all aspects of the design, construction, operation and maintenance of a satellite communication earth station as well as in satellite communication techniques.

जम्मू छावनी में ट्रक दुर्घटना

**1228. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :
श्री बड़े :**

क्या रक्षा मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि एक ट्रक दुर्घटना के फलस्वरूप जम्मू छावनी क्षेत्र में 14 सितम्बर, 1966 को झाड़वर की मृत्यु हो गई थी और अन्य कुछ लोग घायल हो गये थे ;

(ख) यदि हा, तो इस दुर्घटना के क्या कारण थे ; और

(ग) इसके परिणामस्वरूप कितनी हानि हुई है ?

प्रतिरक्षा मन्त्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अ० म० थामस) : (क) जी हाँ। चालक मर गया और तीन सेना सेविवर्गों को मामूली चोटें आईं।

(ख) रणवीर नहर की तंग पुल के निकट पहुँचते हुए चालक ने देखा कि एक असेैनिक, गाड़ी के सामने से सड़क पार कर रहा है, और उसे बचाने के उद्देश्य से उसने गाड़ी को ऐसे मोड़ा कि वह पुल की बाईं मुडेर से जा टकराई। गाड़ी तब उलट गई और नहर में गिर गई क्योंकि पुल का उस ओर का जंगला एक पहली दुर्घटना में पहले ही क्षत हो चुका था, और गाड़ी को मरुहाल नहीं सका था।

(ग) गाड़ी की हुई क्षति का अनुमान लगभग 1685.60 रुपये है।

कानपुर में हड़ताल

1229. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :
श्री बड़े :

क्या प्रतिरक्षा मन्त्री 22 अगस्त, 1966 के अतारंकित प्रश्न संख्या 2941 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उन दो कर्मचारियों के विरुद्ध जांच इस बीच पूर्ण हो गयी है जिन पर आरोप लगाये गये थे परन्तु उनका हड़ताल में कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं था; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इस सम्बन्ध में कितना समय और लगने की सम्भावना है ?

प्रतिरक्षा मन्त्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अ० म० थामस) : (क) दो ट्रेड एग्जिक्यूटिवों के खिलाफ जांच पूरी की जा चुकी है। एक के मामले में उसका एग्जिक्यूटिव समाप्त करने के

लिए अन्तिम आदेश दिये जा चुके हैं और दूसरे का मामला विचाराधीन है।

(ख) दूसरे ट्रेड एग्जिक्यूटिव के मामले में अन्तिम निर्णय शीघ्र लेने की सम्भावना है।

नासिक के मिग कारखाने के कर्मचारियों के लिये मजूरी बोर्ड

1230. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :
श्री बड़े :

क्या प्रतिरक्षा मन्त्री 22 अगस्त, 1966 के अतारंकित प्रश्न संख्या 2947 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बीच और नासिक में स्थित मिग कारखाने के अधिकाधिक तथा कर्मचारियों के बारे में मजूरी बोर्ड की सिफारिशें प्राप्त हो गई हैं ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उनका व्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसमें कितना समय लगने की सम्भावना है ?

प्रतिरक्षा मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री अ० म० थामस) : (क) इंजीनियरी उद्योगों में (जिनमें शामिल है वैमानिक उद्योग) कामियों की अन्तरिम सहायता के सम्बन्ध में उजरत बोर्ड की सिफारिशें प्राप्त हो गई हैं, और वह विचाराधीन हैं।

(ख) उजरत बोर्ड द्वारा सिफारिश की गई अन्तरिम सहायता इस प्रकार है :—

“निम्न तालिका के पहले खाने में उल्लिखित उजरत सीमा में 31-3-66 को (मूल वेतन में महुंगाई भत्ता जोड़ते या संचित) उजरत लेने वाले कामियों को 1-4-1966 से नीचे दूसरे खाने में दिखलाई अन्तरिम सहायता दी जाएगी।

उज्जरत और उज्जरत सीमा

105 तक और उस पर सम्मिलित

105 से ऊपर परन्तु 150 से अधिक नहीं ।

150 से ऊपर परन्तु 250 से अधिक नहीं ।

250 से ऊपर परन्तु 500 से अधिक नहीं ।

(ग) उज्जरत बोर्ड अभी बैठा है और उसकी अन्तिम सिफारिशें विचाराधीन हैं ।

Dr. Hutton's Suggestion about Naga Problem

1231. **Shri Surendra Pal Singh:** Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. Hutton, a noted anthropologist and administrator, who had spent many years in Nagaland, has put forward a solution of the Naga problem according to which Nagaland will have the freedom to opt out of the Indian Union at the end of 15 to 20 years after fulfilling certain per-conditions;

(b) if so, the salient feature thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b). Dr. Hutton in a letter published in the *Assam Tribune* of the 18th August, 1966 has said: "It seems to me that by the formation of the State of Nagaland, protected as it is by clauses in the Constitution of India, the Nagas have in fact got more than might have been expected or even desired—complete internal home rule financed by the Indian Government; indeed, they have won their war, but to take advantage of their victory the underground must be persuaded to surrender their arms, and order in the hills must be restored. I am old-fashioned, and it is with the greatest diffidence that I offer my positive suggestion, but

1-4-1966 से देय अन्तरिम

12 रुपये 50 पैसे इस शर्त से कि इन सिफारिशों के फलस्वरूप किसी को प्रतिमास 111 रुपये से अधिक न मिल पाए ।

7. 50 रुपये प्रति मास ।

6 रुपये प्रति मास ।

5 रुपये प्रति मास ।

I do not think any harm could be done if the Government of India did agree to a period of, say, fifteen or twenty years at the end of which Nagaland could opt out of the Indian Union, provided of course that such an option would only be implemented on the return to the Government of India of all arms, civil supplies and medical equipment, and some substantial security for the refund of capital expended on education, hospitals, and public works generally, and the assumption of responsibility for all Naga pay and pensions."

(c) Nagaland is a part of India and there could be no question of secession of any part of the Territories of India.

Jammu-Srinagar-Leh Road

1232. **Shri Surendra Pal Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the Jammu-Srinagar-Leh National Highway is progressing satisfactorily and according to the schedule; and

(b) the percentage of total work involved in this project which has so far been accomplished and when the entire project is likely to be completed?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). The road from Jammu to Srinagar forms part of National Highway No. 1-A. The road from Srinagar to Leh via Sonamarg and Kargil is not a National Highway. The progress of work is on the whole satisfactory. It is difficult

to give an accurate forecast about the percentage of work completed as additional works are sanctioned from time to time.

श्रीनगर तथा कानपुर में टेलीविजन केन्द्र

1233. श्रीमती सावित्री निगम : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या तीन वर्ष के भीतर श्रीनगर और कानपुर में टेलीविजन केन्द्र स्थापित करने का कोई प्रस्ताव है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ तो इस बारे में क्या प्रारम्भिक कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री राज-बहादुर) : आकाशवाणी की चौथी पंचवर्षीय योजना में कानपुर में एक पायलेट टेलीविजन केन्द्र खोलने की व्यवस्था है। यदि साधन उपलब्ध हुए तो श्रीनगर में भी केन्द्र खोलने पर विचार किया जाएगा। इसके बारे में प्रारम्भिक कदम योजना के मंजूर होने पर उठाए जायेंगे।

Film Institute of India

1234. Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:

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

(a) whether qualified teachers have been recruited to provide training in various subjects which are being taught in the Film Institute of India; and

(b) if so, their number?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 25.

Chinese Delegation to Pakistan

1235. Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have got an authentic news that a group of Chinese M.Ps. have visited Pakistan recently to assess Pakistan's defence requirements; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) No, Sir. However, a Chinese delegation led by the Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress made a brief stopover on 27th October, 1966, at Karachi en route to Albania. The Delegation included, amongst others, the Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the People's Liberation Army. It is not known if any military matters were discussed at Karachi.

(b) Government are aware of the continuing collusion between China and Pakistan and this aspect is kept under constant attention and observation.

Indian Rare Earths Ltd.

1236. Shri B. K. Das:
Dr. M. M. Das:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the financial condition of the Indian Rare Earths Ltd. has improved appreciably after amalgamation with Messrs, Travancore Minerals Ltd.;

(b) whether one of the products of the Company namely, rare earths chloride, is being exported to U.S.A.; and

(c) if so, the amount of rare earths chloride exported to U.S.A. during 1965-66?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) Indian Rare Earths Ltd. is engaged in reorganising the mineral sand industry on modern lines availing of the assets of Travancore Minerals Limited. It is expected that the financial condition of Indian Rare Earths Ltd. will improve when this reorganisation is completed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 900 metric tons.

Inter-University Centres on Nuclear Science

1237. **Shri B. K. Das:**

Dr. M. M. Das:

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:

Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

Shri S. C. Samanta:

Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether final decision has been taken about the location of the two Inter-University Centres, proposed to be set up to provide facilities for fundamental research in the various fields of nuclear science; and

(b) whether it has been decided that one of the Centres will be set up by the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research for which funds have been provided by the Atomic Energy Establishment?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) As already stated in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2070 dated March 14, 1966, it is proposed to establish an Inter University Centre with a Radiotelescope near Ootacamund. No final decision has yet been taken regarding the location of the second Centre.

(b) The Tata Institute of Fundamental Research has been entrusted with the task of setting up the Radiotelescope near Ootacamund and funds for this purpose have been provided to the Institute by the Department of Atomic Energy. This instrument will be one of the major facilities for the Ooty Inter-University Centre.

Film of High Artistic Merit

1238. **Shri B. K. Das:**

Dr. M. M. Das:

Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

Shri S. C. Samanta:

Shri Subodh Hansda:

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

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a Committee for the examination of films for high artistic merit;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has already been set up or when it is going to be set up; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to increase the production of films with high artistic merit?

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

(a) and (b). A proposal to this effect is under consideration.

(c) Films as are considered purposeful with social and national content and of high artistic merits are proposed to be screened by a Committee and recommended for remission of taxes. This measure is intended to supplement the present efforts of the Government to encourage the production of artistic films through State Awards, training of technicians under Film Institute of India and grant of loans by the Film Finance Corporation.

Houses for Ex-servicemen

1239. **Shri S. C. Samanta:**

Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

Shri Subodh Hansda:

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:

Shri P. C. Borooah:

Dr. M. M. Das:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of two blocks for ex-servicemen by the Delhi Administration has been completed;

(b) if so, whether the houses have been allotted to ex-servicemen;

(c) how many blocks or houses are at present under construction and when they are likely to be completed;

(d) the procedure adopted in allotting these houses to ex-servicemen; and

(e) whether any complaints have been received in this connection from any quarter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Construction of two blocks of 12 flats each will be started soon and the work is likely to be completed in about a year's time.

(d) The procedure for allotting accommodation in these two blocks is under consideration.

(e) No, Sir.

Statement by British Prime Minister about Nuclear Guarantee

**1240. Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:
Shri Hem Barua:**

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3635 on the 29th August, 1966 and state:

(a) the reaction of Government to the British Prime Minister's statement about nuclear guarantee;

(b) whether there has been any correspondence or other follow-up action on the subject between the British and Indian Governments; and

(c) if so, the gist thereof?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) to (c). Government are not aware of any concrete proposals for the extension of nuclear guarantees to non-nuclear Powers. Government are of the view that while a comprehensive non-proliferation agreement should take into account the need for assurance of the

security of non-nuclear Powers it should also provide for steps towards nuclear disarmament by the nuclear Powers which would constitute the only lasting guarantee of world security. Government's position on this question was explained to Lord Chalfont the British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs during the recent visit of the latter to India.

Incidents in B.H.U. Campus

**1241. Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:
Shri Hem Barua:**

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to refer to the replies given to Supplementaries on Starred Question No. 1606 on the 11th May, 1966 and state:

(a) whether she conveyed to the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh all the suggestions made in the House, as stated by the Education Minister on the 21st February, 1966;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) with what result?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) to (c). The Prime Minister wrote to the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh on the subject on 23rd February, 1966. The matter is under the consideration of the State Government.

Electronic Components

**1242. Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:**

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have approved the production programme of a new Indo-German joint venture which will produce a vast range of electronic components;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) when the scheme will be implemented?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir. A licence has been issued for establishing a new industrial undertaking under the name and style of Telefunken India Ltd., for the manufacture of Radio receivers and components under collaboration with M/s Telefunken of West Germany.

(b) The main features of the scheme are as follows:—

(A) Installed capacity:

The industrial undertaking shall have an installed capacity for items mentioned below:—

Item	Capacity annual Nos.
1. Radio receivers	40,000
2. Radio components :	
(i) I.F. Transformers	3,96,000
(ii) Audio and output Transformers	2,64,000
(iii) Coil sets.	1,32,000
(iv) Paper condensers	9,60,000
(v) Loudspeakers upto 8"	2,40,000
(vi) Band switches.	2,40,000
(vii) Mica condensers	9,60,000
(viii) Valve and transistor holders.	9,60,000

(B) Capital Structure:

The foreign company will be allowed to subscribe for shares of the value of cost of imported plant and machinery required for the project but not exceeding 49, per cent of the equity capital of Rs. 75 lakhs.

(C) Location:

The factory shall be located at Ballabgarh.

(c) According to the present indications, the scheme is likely to be implemented in the first half of 1967.

Shoe-Box Radar Device

1243. Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a two pound radar device, only

a little bigger than a shoe box, has been developed in the United States and is considered very useful in jungle fighting; and

(b) whether any effort has been made to acquire this device or to manufacture it indigenously?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) According to our information this radar device is still in the development stage.

(b) Defence Research and Development Laboratories are working on a similar project.

Efficiency analysis and audit of Indian Missions abroad

1244. Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has carried out a close efficiency analysis and audit of our missions abroad; and

(b) whether any effort has been made specifically to inspect and evaluate the performance and the working methods of our missions, such as the Indian Commission in Hongkong, the High Commission in Trinidad and our various missions in Africa?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) In a formal way, efficiency analyses have been conducted of only two Missions—of the High Commission in London in 1958-59 by the Special Re-organisation Unit of the Ministry of Finance and of the Indian Aid Mission, Kathmandu, last year by the same Unit, now called the Staff Inspection Unit. On these occasions, particular study was made of the workload and of possible adjustment/reduction of staff with a view to increase the efficiency of the two Missions.

However, efficiency analyses are constantly made in the following ways:—

1. Every year, when the continuance of staff in Missions

abroad is considered, the Re-organisation Unit of the Ministry of External Affairs studies the workload of each Mission.

2. Organisation and Methods Reports and Instructions are regularly sent to the Missions for compliance in order to effect efficiency.
3. The High Commission of India in London has an O&M Officer.
4. The Foreign Service Inspectorate periodically visit Missions abroad in order to report on staffing, accommodation, allowances, budgets, etc.
5. Other Ministries and Departments of the Government of India analyse the work of their establishments abroad.

As for audit, this is not done by the Ministry of External Affairs. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India conducts the audit of accounts of Indian Missions abroad by virtue of Article 149 of the Constitution and through the Accountant General, Central Revenues, The Director of Audit, London, and the Director of Audit, Washington. The Accountant General, Central Revenues, who does the audit of Missions centrally from Delhi also conducts local audit inspections periodically. The local inspection programme is drawn out on the basis of directions of the Comptroller and Auditor General from time to time.

(b) The Foreign Service Inspectorate was set up in May, 1954, consisting of two officers of the rank of Joint Secretary and a Joint Secretary from the Ministry of Finance. The functions of this Inspectorate are:—

1. To advise and guide Heads of Mission on various matters.
2. To comment on administrative matters, staffing, etc.

3. To make recommendations on allowances.
4. To examine accommodation, purchase of property, etc.
5. To look into the accounts of Missions.

The Inspectorate was wound up in 1960, briefly revived in 1964-65, and has again been revived in October, 1966, after which they inspected a few Missions in Eastern Europe. The Inspectorate will continue to inspect Missions on a regional basis in the future.

The Missions in Hong Kong and Trinidad were inspected in 1956 and in 1959 respectively. The following Missions in Africa were inspected on the dates shown against each other:—

Cairo	June, 1965 & March-April, 1957
Addis Ababa	June-July, 1956.
Khartoum	July, 1956
Accra	July, 1956, and 1964.
Salisbury	April, 1957
Nairobi	April 1957
Mauritius	April, 1957
Tananarive	April, 1957
Mombasa	April, 1957
Harare	April, 1957
Uganda	May, 1957
Leopoldville	April-May, 1964
Lagos	April-May, 1964
Conakry	April-May, 1964
Algiers	April-May, 1964
Rabat	April-May, 1964
Tunis	April-May, 1964

Revision of U.N. Charter

1245. **Dr. L. M. Singhvi:**
Shri Surendra Pal Singh:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the suggestion made by the Indian Ambassador in Cairo for a change in the structure of the United Nations and in particular for the establishment of two Councils in the United Nations, one comprising representatives of the States and the other those of the people;

(b) whether Government have considered the suggestion and are in a position to endorse it; and

(c) whether Government have considered the question of Charter revision in any particular respect, and, if so, along what lines?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Ambassador merely referred to various proposals for the reorganization of the United Nations. He did not advocate implementation of the proposals either in his personal capacity or on behalf of the Government of India.

(c) Government consider that the present international climate is not suitable for a review or revision of the UN Charter, which can be brought about only with the concurrence of all the Great Powers.

आकाशवाणी में समाचार सेवायें

1246. श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह मन्त्र है कि आकाशवाणी की समाचार प्रसारण करने की संख्या में वृद्धि की जा रही है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो किन-किन भाषाओं में ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) सवाल नहीं उठता ।

Programme of "University of the Air" for B.A. Students

1247. Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

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

(a) whether a new programme of "University of the Air" for B.A. pass

students has been started in the Delhi Station of the A.I.R.;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) whether the same would be expanded to the other stations of the A.I.R. in the country; and

(d) if so, when and to what other stations?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir. This programme is broadcast from the Delhi and Madras Stations of A.I.R.

(b) The programme is intended to supplement and reinforce the efforts of the Correspondence Course of the Delhi University. The programme is broadcast thrice a week and is correlated with the prescribed syllabus of B.A. pass degree. The aim is to bring to the studios outstanding lecturers and professors in the subjects of Economics, Political Science and English so that not only the students of the Correspondence Course but regular students may also benefit from the broadcasts. The broadcasts are timed at 6.30 P.M. and 7.30 P.M. from Delhi and Madras respectively, and are of 30 minutes duration each.

(c) and (d). The possibility of extending these broadcasts to other Stations of A.I.R. will be examined, in due course, in the light of the results achieved by the present arrangement and the availability of resources.

Border Publicity

1248. Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

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

(a) the amount spent on border publicity in the Third Five Year Plan Period; and

(b) the amount proposed to be spent on border publicity in the Fourth Five Year Plan Period?

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

(a) Rs. 197.00 lakhs.

(b) It is still under discussion with the Planning Commission.

Broadcasting of Tribal Programme

1249. Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Dr. M. M. Das:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there are complaints about the broadcasting of Tribal Programme from Calcutta Station;

(b) if so, the nature of complaints made;

(c) whether any attempt has been made to rectify them; and

(d) if so, which complaints have been rectified?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) More variety of songs, talks and spoken-word items have been demanded in the Santhali broadcasts from All India Radio, Calcutta. There are also complaints about the unsatisfactory reception of these programmes.

(c) and (d). Steps have been taken, within the available resources, to introduce more variety in these broadcasts. As regards the quality of reception, A.I.R.'s future plans aim at a substantial improvement in broadcast coverage throughout the country and the needs of the tribal regions have been kept in view.

12-Bore Cartridges

1250. Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Dr. M. M. Das:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a separate project for the manufacture of 12 bore cartridges for use by civilians;

(b) the location of the proposed project;

(c) what would be the monthly production capacity; and

(d) whether this would be able to meet the demand for home consumption?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Discussion with Kenya Delegation to Commonwealth Conference

1251. Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri P. C. Borooah:

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

(a) whether he discussed with the Kenya delegation to the Commonwealth Conference in London the recent attacks on local Indians and their position in Kenya; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b). The Indian Delegation maintained close contact with the Kenyan delegation at all levels during the Commonwealth meeting and the position of persons of Indian origin in Kenya was discussed. Our delegation was assured that there was no organised move against Asians in general and

Indians in particular. The Kenya Government had apparently taken similar action against British and American nationals also. Members of the Kenyan delegation, however, felt that such cases were not likely to arise in the future.

There have been no further deportations, and objectionable comments in the Press and Radio have also ceased.

Design of Engine for Light Planes

1252. Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:
Shri Bagri:
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd., Bangalore have designed and successfully tested an engine for light planes recently;

(b) if so, the special features of the said engine; and

(c) how it is proposed to be made use of?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is a four cylinder, four stroke, air-cooled, horizontally opposed type piston engine suitable for light aircraft. Its power at 'maximum take off' is 84 HP at 2600 RPM (Full throttle), and at "maximum continuous", it is 64 HP at 2450 RPM.

(c) The engine is intended to be used as a power plant for light aircraft like the Pushpak.

Atomic Power Grid

1253. Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Dr. Ranen Sen:

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:
Shri Maheswar Naik:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Chain of atomic power grid in the country;

(b) if so, whether the data for selection of new station sites have been collected;

(c) whether Government have been pressed by the Gujarat Government to set up a nuclear power station in Gujarat State;

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

(e) when atomic power projects are likely to be commissioned?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) to (e). The programme approved by Government so far is for the setting up of three atomic power stations in (i) Tarapur in Maharashtra, (ii) Rana Pratap Sagar in Rajasthan and (iii) Kalpakkam in Madras. These three stations are expected to be commissioned on the dates shown below:—

- (i) Tarapur Atomic Power Station October 1968
- (ii) Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (1st Unit) Late in 1969
- (iii) Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (2nd Unit) and Madras Atomic Power Station (1st Unit) 1971
- (iv) Madras Atomic Power Station (2nd Unit) 1973

Proposals for setting up additional power stations during the Fifth Five Plan period are under examination.

(c) and (d). The Government of Gujarat have suggested that a nuclear power station should be set up in Gujarat State. This proposal along with proposals from other States is being examined.

Broadcasting Station for Haryana

1254. **Shri Yashpal Singh:**
Shri Bagri:
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:

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

(a) whether Government have taken any decision for the establishment of a separate broadcasting station for Haryana; and

(b) if not, when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The Fourth Five Year Plan of All India Radio which has yet to be approved, provides for a Broadcasting Station for Haryana.

Move for China's Admission to Disarmament Talks

1255. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:**
Shri K. N. Tiwary:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the question of bringing China into the Geneva disarmament talks was discussed on the 13th September 1966 at the annual Pugwash Conference on World Security held in Poland;

(b) if so, what was the general consensus on this issue; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b). It is not possible to state whether China's membership of the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee was discussed at the Pugwash Conference held in Poland in September, 1966 as the proceedings of that conference are not yet available.

(c) Does not arise.

राष्ट्रमंडल में ब्रिटेन की स्थिति

1256. **श्री विभूति मिश्र :**
श्री क० ना० तिचारी :

क्या वैदेशिक-कार्य मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि राष्ट्र मण्डल किसी भी देश की ऐसी स्थिति नहीं है जैसी कि ब्रिटेन की है ; और

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि क्योंकि ब्रिटेन की स्थिति सर्वोच्च है इसलिए राष्ट्र मण्डल का सम्मेलन सदा नन्दन में ही होता है ?

वैदेशिक-कार्य मन्त्री (श्री मु० क० चागला) : (क) जी नहीं । राष्ट्रमण्डल के प्रभुसत्ता प्राप्त स्वाधीन सदस्यों के रूप में सब देशों की स्थिति समान है ।

(ख) अभी तक राष्ट्रमण्डल सम्मेलन नन्दन में इस कारण आयोजित किये गये हैं कि राष्ट्रमण्डल के अधिकतर देश उसे वहीं आयोजित करना सुविधाजनक समझते हैं । बहरहाल, जनवरी 1966 में सम्मेलन लागोस (नाइजीरिया) में हुआ था ।

Construction of Roads in Nepal

1257. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:**
Shri K. N. Tiwary:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are going to construct a road in Nepal, during its Third Five Year Plan ending in 1970, 600 miles in length East-West Highway connecting the extreme end of Eastern Nepal from Jalpa to the Western end in Mahakali;

(b) if so, the total expenditure to be incurred thereon; and

(c) whether there are any other proposals under consideration for the construction of other roads in Nepal?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) The total length of the East West Highway of Nepal likely to be constructed with Indian assistance is about 410 miles.

(b) and (c). During our Five Year Plan period ending 1971, an estimated cost of Rs. 21 crores will be incurred on the Eastern Sector of the Highway running from Jalpa to Janakpur, a distance of approximately 160 miles. The Government of India will take up the construction of the Central Sector of the East West Highway in Nepal from Butwal to Nepalganj towards the end of the Fourth Plan period 1966—71 and subject to a further request from His Majesty's Government of Nepal, would be willing to assist in the construction of the Western Sector of the East West Highway from Nepalganj to the Western border of Nepal after the remaining portions of the Highway have been completed.

The Government of India have been constructing the 128 miles long Sonauli Pokhara Road since 1964 at an estimated cost of about Rs. 12 crores.

There are a few other roads in the Kosi area and some other small roads in Nepal which were taken up during the period 1961—66. Their construction is still continuing with our assistance.

There are no fresh proposals for constructing any other roads in Nepal in the near future.

प्रतिरक्षा प्रयत्न

1258. श्री बिभूति मिश्र :

श्री क० ना० तिवारी :

क्या रक्षा मन्त्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार देश के सभी भागों के लोगों को प्रतिरक्षा प्रयत्नों में भाग लेने के ममान अस्त्र प्रदान करने के लिये कोई योजना बना रही है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि भरती करने का वर्तमान तरीका वृष्टिपूर्ण है ; और

(ग) यदि हां तो देश के सभी लोगों को ममान अस्त्र प्रदान करने के उद्देश्य से सरकार का क्या योजना बनाने का विचार है ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अ० म० धामस) : (क) सरकार की नीति भर्तों में उदारता बरतने की है, और इसे जाति रंग,स्थान के भेद रहित सभी भारतीय नागरिकों के लिए खोल देने की, अगर वह निर्धारित शारीरिक, शिक्षा और चिकित्सा मानदण्डों पर पूरे उत्तरे, और निर्धारित आयु सीमाओं में हां ।

(ख) जी नहीं ।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Shortage of Cartridges

1259. Shri K. N. Tiwary:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cartridges for Double Barrel Breech Loading and for other guns indigenously manufactured are not available in the various States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) The supply position in respect of .22 ammunition is satisfactory. However, there has been a shortage of ammunition for 12 bore Double Barrel Breech Loading guns.

(b) The shortage of ammunition for 12 bore guns has been due to restricted production after the Emergency and shortage of paper which has to be imported.

(c) Action has now been taken to increase production substantially and with the new production it should be possible to meet the demands in full within a few months.

Statue of Swami Vivekananda

1260. Shri Umanath:
Shri M. N. Swamy:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Health Minister of the Burmese Government was personally present at the time when the statue of Swami Vivekananda, installed in the precincts of the Ramakrishna Mission Sevashram in Rangoon, was removed from its pedestal for shipment to India and looked after its removal;

(b) whether it is also a fact that despite repeated requests by the Organisers who arranged for this shipment, none of the Indian Embassy officials were present at the time, when the Health Minister of Burma went to the Sevashram for the occasion; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) The Health Minister of the Burmese Government was in the hospital on the morning when the statue was lowered from its pedestal but, it is understood, his presence there was not connected with the statue. He was on an inspection tour of the hospital at the time.

(b) and (c). The Embassy had received no information or requests to be present at the hospital when the statue was lowered. The Embassy, however, later interceded with the shipping company to enable the statue to be shipped to India and an official of the Embassy was present at the port when it was put on board the ship.

खारतूम में भारतीय राजदूत के लिये बंगला

1261. श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या वैदेशिक-कार्य मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि खारतूम में भारतीय राजदूत के लिये दो साल पहले ही 4 लाख रुपये के मूल्य पर एक बंगला खरीदा गया था ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि राजदूत उक्त बंगले में कभी नहीं रहा और वह बंगला अब भी खाली पड़ा है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसका क्या कारण है ?

वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री मु० क० चागला : (क) जी नहीं। सरकार ने अभी तक खारतूम में कोई सम्पत्ति नहीं खरीदी है।

(ख) और (ग). प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Haj Pilgrims

1262. Shri Mohammad Koya: Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Haj Pilgrims to be allowed to go for Haj next year;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange allowed to be carried by each pilgrim; and

(c) the restrictions if any, imposed on the Hajis?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) 15,000.

(b) Rs. 1575/- per adult and Rs. 790/- per child between the ages of 14 to 16.

(c) The persons belonging to the following categories are not permitted to go to Saudi Arabia for Haj.

(i) Ladies, who are pregnant for more than four months at the time of embarkation.

- (ii) Persons with less than Rs. 1250/- in foreign exchange.
- (iii) Persons suffering from the following diseases/disabilities:
- Cerebral thrombosis.
 - Pulmonary tuberculosis.
 - Congestive Cardiac Failure.
 - Acute Coronary Insufficiency.
 - Infectious Leprosy; or
 - Other serious infectious diseases.
- (iv) Children between the ages of 5—14 years.
- (v) Persons who have performed Haj during the last five years.

Plan Publicity

1263. Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Asad:
Dr. M. M. Das:

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

(a) whether Government have any separate plan for publicity on various developmental plans and projects among the scheduled tribes people and also in the scheduled areas;

(b) if so, the type of machinery set up at the Centre for the plan publicity; and

(c) since when this machinery is working?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). Though no special machinery has been set up for the purpose, considerable emphasis is being laid on the publicity of the development plans in the scheduled areas and for the scheduled tribes. All India Radio broadcasts special programmes for scheduled tribes from as many as nine stations. The Films Division has produced 19 documentary films bearing on the development plans and projects for the tribal people and three documen-

taries are under preparation. The Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity has undertaken production of three folders on the tribal welfare in South India, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. Development Plans concerning the Scheduled Tribes are also given special publicity in the tribal areas through the Field Publicity Units set up in the various States.

Design of Dry Dock

1264. Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Asad:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Dr. M. M. Das:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Garden Reach Workshop authorities have been able to get consultancy services regarding design of the dry dock and ancillaries;

(b) if so, who are the Consultants;

(c) whether they have prepared the design of the dock;

(d) whether plan and estimate of the dock has also been prepared; and

(e) if so, the amount involved in it and also the foreign exchange part of it?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) The site for the dry dock and its alignment is still under consideration between Garden Reach Workshop and Calcutta Port Authorities. No firm of consultants has therefore so far been appointed to design the Dry Dock.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) and (e) Estimates on the basis of certain preliminary designs were prepared some time ago. The cost of the dry dock was estimated to be about Rs. 2.75 crores with foreign exchange element of Rs. 48.00 lakhs.

Television sets

1265. Shri P. G. Sen: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the number of television sets ordered so far from abroad; and

(b) the number of sets indigenously ordered for?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 5,000.

(b) Letters of intent have been issued by the Ministry of Industry to two parties for production of 10,000 TV sets each per annum and production capacity for another 10,000 T.V. sets has been reserved for the consortium of Small Scale Radio Manufacturers. The Central Electronic Engineering Research Institute, Pilani, also plans to produce 1,000 T.V. sets.

दिल्ली छावनी में ट्रक दुर्घटना

1266. श्री बड़े :

श्री हुकम चन्व कछवाय :

श्री विश्वाम प्रसाद :

क्या रक्षा मंत्री 22 अगस्त 1966 के अतारहित प्रश्न संख्या 2885 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या दिल्ली छावनी में हुई ट्रक दुर्घटना की जांच अब समाप्त हो गई है;

(ख) यदि हां तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं तो इस सम्बन्ध में कितना समय लगने की संभावना है ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री अ० म० थामस) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) और (ग). कोर्ट आफ इन्क्वायरी की राय में दुर्घटना सेवा के चालक द्वारा असावधानीपूर्वक तेज गाड़ी चलाने और

गाड़ी के एक हवालदार द्वारा अधिक भार लाद देने के कारण हुई । दोनों के विरुद्ध अनुशासनिक कार्यवाही अब प्रगतिशील है ।

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय में हिन्दी का प्रयोग

1267. श्री विश्वाम प्रसाद : क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय द्वारा चलाई जाने वाली हिन्दी प्रशिक्षण कक्षाओं में प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त करने के बाद उनके मंत्रालय के कितने कर्मचारियों को हिन्दी में कार्य करने को कहा गया है;

(ख) उनके हिन्दी के ज्ञान को ताजा करने के लिये सरकार का क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है; और

(ग) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (ख) का उत्तर नकारात्मक हो तो उसका क्या कारण है ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अ० म० थामस) : (क) सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और जभी प्राप्य हुई सभा के पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

(ख) और (ग). नवीकरण पाठ्यक्रम प्रारम्भ करने के प्रस्ताव पर यथासमय गृह मंत्रालय द्वारा विचार किया जायेगा ।

Ancillary Units

1268. Shri Wadiwa:

Shri U. M. Trivedi:

Dr. Chandrabhan Singh:

Shri Hukam Chand

Kachhavaia:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state the action so far taken for farming out to the ancillary units list of requirements of the proposed Heavy Vehicles Project, Jabalpur following the compilation of list by the Ancillary Industries sub-Committee for Madhya Pradesh?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas):

The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House but the Project at Jabalpur will not be for heavy vehicles but for Saktiman (3-ton trucks) and Nissan vehicles (1-ton trucks and patrols).

Seven-nation Conference on Vietnam

1269. **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:**
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:
Shri Kolla Venkalah:
Shri P. R. Patel:
Shri Kindar Lal:
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the proposal to convene a 7-nation Conference comprising the U.S.A. and her allies in the Vietnam war; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction and attitude thereto as Chairman of the I.C.C. in Vietnam?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir. The Conference was held in Manila on 24th & 25th October, 1966.

(b) Neither India nor I.C.C. in Vietnam participated in the Conference.

Ammunition Factory, Kirkee

1270. **Shri Utiya:**
Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to heavy work-load, thousands of employees are being given over-time allowance at the ammunition factory at Kirkee (Poona);

(b) whether Government have explored the possibility of absorbing Dehu Vehicle Depot workers in the

ammunition factory without adversely affecting their working conditions;

(c) whether the Ammunition Factory employees and management have been consulted in the matter;

(d) if so, their reaction thereto; and

(e) if the reply to part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Yes, Sir. Bulk of the employees at the Ammunition Factory, Kirkee, are working overtime.

(b) It is not possible to run three shifts in factories where increased production is required for a temporary period. Moreover, in the case of old machines some period is necessary everyday for maintenance. The scope for employing surplus personnel from Dehu Vehicle Depot is therefore very limited. It has been possible so far to absorb only 16 such employees in the Ammunition Factory, Kirkee.

(c) to (e). Broad policy in these matters is ordinarily arrived at after consultation with factory management and DGOF Headquarters.

Employees in Indian Missions Abroad

1271. **Shri Sivamurthi Swamy:** Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the numerical strength of staff in our Embassies in all countries is comparatively greater than those of other countries; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b). It is not possible to make a comparison of the strength of the staff in Indian Embassies with that of other foreign missions abroad, as the strength of the latter is not known to Government.

Recognition of Botswana

1272. Shri Bhagwat Jha Asad:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Kam Harkh Yadav:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to recognise the newly emerged independent State of Botswana in Africa;

(b) if so, what is the level and nature of diplomatic relations established with that country; and

(c) the steps taken to establish economic and trade relations therewith?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There has, so far, been no exchange of diplomatic missions between the two countries.

(c) The Government of India would explore possibilities of trade with that country. We have, through the auspices of the United Nations, lent the services of some experts to assist in Botswana's development.

Pay and Allowances of Defence Personnel

1273. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the pay and allowances of the sepoy or other ranks of the Defence personnel; and

(b) if so, the steps taken for the purpose?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). Proposals of varying importance relating to salaries and conditions of service of Services personnel are at different stages of consideration. It is not feasible to give an indication in this

respect before Government has examined the issues and taken a decision.

हैदराबाद में इलेक्ट्रॉनिक कारखाना

1274. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :
श्री श्रींकार लाल बरवा :
श्री बड़े :
श्री दिग्वे :
श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय :

क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री 1 अगस्त 1966 के अतारंकित प्रश्न संख्या 873 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने हैदराबाद में इलेक्ट्रॉनिक कारखाने द्वारा बनाई जाने वाली अतिरिक्त वस्तुओं के बारे में विचार किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इस मामले में कितना समय लगेगा ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री श्री ० ए० थामस): (क) से (ग). मामला अभी तक विचाराधीन है। यह कारखाना सर्वप्रथम मिंग-21 विमानों के वायुबहित इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी साजसामान से संबंधित है। अतिरिक्त चीजों का उत्पादन दूसरी प्रावस्था में लगभग 1969 से हस्तगत किया जा सकता है और ऐसे हस्तान्तरण की योजनाओं पर 1967 में विस्तारपूर्वक विचार करने और अन्तिम रूप देने की आशा है।

खिझोकी स्थित केन्द्रीय प्रायुष दिपो में अग्निकांड

1275. श्री श्रींकार लाल बरवा :
श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :
श्री बड़े :

क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री 1 अगस्त 1966 के अतारंकित प्रश्न संख्या 839 के उत्तर के

सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या इलाहाबाद के निकट चिन्नोकी में केन्द्रीय प्रायुध डिपो में हुए अग्निकांड के कारणों के बारे में की जा रही जांच इस बीच पूरी हो गई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका संक्षिप्त ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसमें और कितना समय लगेगा ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री प्र० म० धामस) (क) से (ग). कोर्ट आफ इन्व्वायरी की कार्यवाही का निरीक्षण किया जा रहा है और उसके निर्णयों को अन्तिम रूप दिया जा रहा है। उसमें शीघ्रता की जा रही है परन्तु कोई भ्रवधि सीमा इंगित नहीं की जा सकती।

AVRO Transport Plane

1276. Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Utiya:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. have finally developed the AVRO Transport plane for use by I.A.F. and as a possible commercial airliner;

(b) whether the Indian prototypes were rejected by the AVRO Company as not upto the specifications;

(c) the amount spent on the project so far;

(d) whether the opinions of experts other than the AVRO Company or Director General of Civil Aviation have been obtained on the air-worthiness of the Indian prototypes; and

(e) if so, the future of the AVRO Project of the Hindustan Aeronautics, Ltd.?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a)

The HS-748 which received the certificate of Airworthiness in U.K. is an appropriately developed transport aircraft. H.A.L. are manufacturing this aircraft under licence. The question of H.A.L. developing it as a transport aircraft does not arise.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The value of capital assets of Kanpur Division as on 31-3-1966 was about Rs. 2 crores and the revenue expenditure about Rs. 11 crores.

(d) The HS-748 aircraft manufactured at Kanpur has received the certificate of airworthiness from the D.G.C.A.

(e) The existing orders of I.A.F. and I.A.C. for 42 HS-748 aircraft on Kanpur would be completed; the manufacture of further requirements of I.A.C., if any, would also be undertaken.

National Defence Fund

1277. Shri Kolla Venkaiah: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for spending the amounts collected for the National Defence Fund on education or military matters or any other purposes not covered by the budget;

(b) if so, what are the proposals;

(c) whether any instances of fraud or misuse of this fund have come to the notice of Government; and

(d) if so, what they are?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) and (b). From time to time the Executive Committee of the Fund considers proposals relating to grants from the National Defence Fund for all purposes connected with the Defence effort, and the welfare of members of the Armed Forces and others engaged in the defence of the country, and their families.

(c) and (d). Except for some minor complaints, generally of a trivial and vague nature, no serious instances of fraud or misuse of the National Defence Fund have come to notice of the Government recently.

Sainik Samachar in Malayalam and Other Languages

**1278. Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri Warrior:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) when the Malayalam edition of *Sainik Samachar* was started and what is the present circulation thereof;

(b) the number of staff employed in the Malayalam Section, their designations, scales of pay and term of appointment;

(c) the number of staff employed in other language editions including the English edition; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to print and publish the South Indian language edition from South India?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7303/66].

Discrimination against Businessmen of Indian Origin in Ceylon

1279. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Mercantile Chamber, representing Indian traders and businessmen of Indian origin in Ceylon, has complained of subtle attempts to discriminate against those businessmen of Indian origin, who have become citizens of Ceylon by registration; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in the matter?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) No, Sir. No such complaint has been received from the Indian Mercantile Chamber of Ceylon. But the President spoke of subtle attempts to discriminate against those business of Indian origin who have become citizens of Ceylon by registration. He, however, went on to say, "In this connection it is very heartening that the Prime Minister made a categorical public statement when he was in Jaffna recently that there cannot be two kinds of citizens in Ceylon, one first class and another second class."

(b) Does not arise.

Statement by West German M.P. re. Recognition of East Germany

1280. Shri Indrajit Gupta: Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the statement in New Delhi on the 6th November, 1966 by Mr. Baron Von Wrangel, Member of the West German Parliament to the effect that he had been assured by officials of the external Affairs Ministry that India would not grant diplomatic recognition to East Germany; and

(b) whether such an assurance was given?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India's position on the German question was reiterated in terms of Minister of External Affairs' statement in Rajya Sabha on August 10. Beyond this, no specific assurance was given or asked for.

Regional A.I.R. Directorate in the South

**1281. Shri Dighe:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to refer to

the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 884 on the 1st August, 1966 and state:

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision to establish a Regional A.I.R. Directorate in the South; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. It has been decided not to set up a Regional A.I.R. Directorate in the South.

हथगोले का विस्फोट

1282 श्री बड़े :

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :

क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 26 सितम्बर 1966 को झांसी जिले के भड़काला गांव के पास बवीना ग्रामर्डे ब्रिगेड के चांदमारी क्षेत्र के अन्दर एक हथगोले के फट जाने के परिणाम-स्वरूप 3 लड़के मारे गये थे;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस घटना के क्या कारण थे; और

(ग) सरकार ने मृत लड़कों के माता-पिता को क्या सहायता दी है ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री (श्री स्वर्ण सिंह) :

(क) और (ख). की गई पूछताछ से पता चला है कि 24 सितम्बर 1966 को चार लड़के रेंज क्षेत्र में दाखिल हो गये थे जो कासोधन और झंडा गांवों के बीच साधारण क्षेत्र में स्थित है। उन्हें एक अनफटा शैल मिला जिसे उन्होंने तोड़ने का यत्न किया जिस पर वह फट उठा। दो लड़के वहीं मर गये और एक तीसरा रेंज क्षेत्र के बाहर भण्डरा गांव में मर गया; चौथा लड़का घायल हुआ था। घटना की अधिक जांच हो रही है।

(ग) अनुग्रहपूर्वक सहायता के लिए किसी प्रार्थना पर पूरा विचार किया जायेगा।

Chinese Propaganda against India

1283. Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item appearing in 'National Herald' Lucknow published on the 13th October, 1966 under the caption "India is Hell, says Peking"; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This kind of abuse only exposes the vicious and undignified nature of Chinese propaganda against India.

Nehru Memorial Fund in U.K.

1285. Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fund for Nehru Memorial Trust has been raised in U.K.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total collection towards this fund so far?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Presumably, the Member has in mind the appeal issued by Lord Mountbatten in November, 1964 inviting contributions to a Trust Fund to be set up in the U.K. in memory of Jawaharlal Nehru. According to the information available with Government, the collection target is pound 1,00,000; a sum of Pound 90,000 has so far been collected including an initial contribution of Pound 50,000 from the British Government. It is understood that the proposed funds are intended

to be utilised for the grant of scholarships for post-graduate students from India for advanced studies in the U.K. and for holding an annual Nehru Memorial Lecture at Trinity College, Cambridge.

नेपाल में बसे हुए भारतीय

1286. श्री डा० महादेव प्रसाद : क्या वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) नेपाल में बसे हुए भारतीय नागरिकों की संख्या कितनी है; और

(ख) नेपाल की नागरिकता का कानून इन भारतीयों पर कहां तक लागू होता है ?

वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री सु० क० षागला) : (क) चूंकि भारत और नेपाल के बीच पासपोर्ट-बीजा के औपचारिक प्रबन्ध नहीं हैं इसलिए नेपाल में रहने वाले भारतीय नागरिकों को नेपाली या भारतीय अधिकांशों के पास अपने आपको रजिस्टर करवाना नहीं पड़ता। इसलिए उनकी पूरी संख्या की जानकारी नहीं है।

(ख) नेपाल नागरिकता अधिनियम 1964 की व्यवस्थाओं के अन्तर्गत कोई भी भारतीय राष्ट्रिक नेपाल का देशीयकृत नागरिक बन सकता है बशर्ते कि :

- (1) वह 12 वर्षों से अधिक नेपाल में रह रहा हो,
- (2) वह नेपाली भाषा में लिख-पढ़ सकता हो,
- (3) वह अपनी विदेशी नागरिकता छोड़ दे,
- (4) उसका धन्धा-रोजगार ठीक हो,
- (5) उसका चालचलन अच्छा हो।

Help to Artists

1287. श्री Basumatari: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated any scheme for rendering help to musicians, dancers and dramatists; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Raj Bahadur) (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A copy of the scheme is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7304/66].

Cooks and Water Carriers in Ordnance Depots/Factories

1288. Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cooks and Water Carriers in Ordnance Depots/factories are being declared surplus;

(b) whether orders have already been issued in Bangalore and elsewhere to this effect;

(c) the reason therefor when the country is still under promulgation of an Emergency; and

(d) whether they will be retrenched and, if so, the number thereof?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) and (c). The proportion of non-combatants in the Indian Army was larger than that in the Armies of some other countries. With a view to rationalising the scale of non-combatants and inculcating a spirit of self-help among Army personnel, it has been decided, *inter alia*, to abolish the category of water-carriers. As a result of the decision to abolish the category of water-carriers, civilians holding these posts in Army installations have been declared surplus. The scale of cooks has not been reduced.

(b) and (d). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

भारतीय राष्ट्रीय राइफल संघ को कारतूसों की सप्लाई

1289. श्री ए० ला० बालूपाल :
श्री श्रींकार लाल बैरवा :
श्री बलजीत सिंह :

क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारतीय कारखानों द्वारा 1 जनवरी 1966 से 31 अक्टूबर 1966 तक भारतीय राष्ट्रीय राइफल संघ, नई दिल्ली को 22 बोर तथा 12 बोर के कितने कारतूस सप्लाई किये गये;

(ख) उपरोक्त बोर के कितने कारतूस विदेशों से आयात किये गये; और

(ग) उपरोक्त संघ द्वारा विदेशों से कितने कारतूस आयात किये गये और उसके प्रत्येक सदस्य को कितने कारतूस दिये गये ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री ए० ए० घामस): (क) 1 जनवरी से 31 अक्टूबर 1966 के दौरान नेशनल राइफल एसोसिएशन भारत को आयुध कारखानों द्वारा इस प्रकार स्पॉटिंग अम्युनीशन सप्लाई किया गया था :

12 बोर कार्ट्रिज,	90,000	नक़्क्या
22 बोर कार्ट्रिज,	एक	भी नहीं

(कोई मांग नहीं)

(ख) 22 बोर और 12 बोर कार्ट्रिजों के आयात आकड़े प्राप्य नहीं हैं क्योंकि भारतीय व्यापार वर्गीकरण में यह मर्दे भिन्न नहीं दर्शाई गईं, जिसके आधार पर देश के आयात व्यापार के आकड़े रखे जा रहे हैं। तदपि, 3.34 लाख रुपये का शिकार संबंधी और स्पॉटिंग अम्युनीशन जनवरी से मई 1966 की अवधि में आयात किया गया था।

इसके पश्चात की अवधि का डाटा प्राप्य नहीं है।

(ग) एसोसिएशन द्वारा दी गई सूचना से पता चला है, कि उसने 1 जनवरी से 31 अक्टूबर, 1966 की अवधि में कोई गोली-बाकूद आयात नहीं किया है।

दलाई लामा द्वारा आकाशवाणी से प्रसारण के सम्बन्ध में अनुरोध

1290. श्री किशन पटनायक :
श्री मधु सिमये :

क्या बौद्धिक-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि तिब्बती शरणार्थियों ने सरकार से यह अनुरोध किया था कि वह हिज होलीनेस दलाई लामा को तिब्बतियों के लिए आकाशवाणी से सन्देश प्रसारित करने की अनुमति दे;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि सरकार ने इस अनुरोध को अस्वीकृत कर दिया है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

बौद्धिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री ए० ए० क० चागला) : (क) इसके बारे में सरकार से कोई विशेष प्रार्थना नहीं की गई है, लेकिन समुचित अवसरों पर दलाई लामा के भाषण भाल इंडिया रेडियो के तिब्बती कार्यक्रमों में प्रसारित किये जाते हैं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Journeys performed by O.Bs. on Duty

1291. Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri M. N. Swamy:
Shri P. Kunhan:
Shri Laxmi Dass:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for the journeys performed on duty, the O.Rs. in the Army and the Air Force are not given any other allowance except the price of permitted ration and, if so, the total amount so paid to them;

(b) whether the Army and the Air Force Officer entitled to draw T.A. in cash to cover all the incidental expenses and if so, the rates payable to them; and

(c) the reasons for this discrimination between the Army officers and the O.Rs.?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) O.Rs./Airmen in the Army/Air Force while travelling on temporary or permanent duty are granted train journey ration allowance at the rate of Rs. 3 per day and also mineral water and ice allowance during summer at the rate of 34 Paise per diem. The O.Rs./Airmen, whether on permanent duty or temporary always travel on warrant. Ration allowance otherwise than during journeys varies in the case of O.Rs. in the Army from Rs. 1.82 to Rs. 2.13 per day and in the case of Airmen in the Air Force from Rs. 2.38 to 2.69 per day.

While moving on permanent duty, the O.Rs./Airmen in Army/Air Force, borne on the authorised married establishment at both ends are allowed cash allowance of Rs. 30 in addition to the train journey ration allowance and mineral water and ice allowance mentioned above.

(b) Army and Air Force Officers are entitled to cash T.A. when not required to travel on warrant. The rates of incidentals admissible to Officers when they travel on cash T.A. are as follows:—

- (i) on temporary duty: 35 paise for every 10 Kilometers, or part thereof, of the rail journey subject to a maximum of one daily allowance for every 24 hours of rail journey. The rate of daily allowance varies from Rs. 8 to Rs. 15.70 according to the pay of the officers.

- (ii) on permanent duty: Double the above rate subject to a maximum of two daily allowance for every 24 hours of rail journeys.

In addition, officers on permanent duty and entitled to cash T.A. are granted a lump sum allowance of Rs. 150 or half a month's pay whichever is less.

- (iii) on occasions when officers are required to travel on warrant they are allowed journey D.A. of Rs. 10 per day irrespective of whether it is on a permanent duty or temporary duty. They are not entitled to any incidentals on such occasions.

(c) The T.A. entitlements like other conditions of service are determined for each category according to the circumstances of the case.

Memorandum from Panchayat Employees of Kerala

**1292. Shri P. Kunhan:
Shri Umanath:
Shri Laxmi Dass:
Shri Imbichibava:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether she has received any Memorandum from the Panchayat employees in Kerala regarding their demands;

(b) the main points raised in the Memorandum;

(c) if so, whether she has considered it and the action taken thereon; and

(d) if not, when Government propose to take action on them?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) to (d). During the last few months, a few communications from individual Panchayats in Kerala pertaining to the grievances of their employees were received. They were forwarded to the Government of Kerala for appropriate action.

जापान से टेलीविजन सेट

1293. श्री श्रींकार लाल बेरवा : क्या सूचना तथा प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि जापान से प्राप्त हुए 500 टेलीविजन सेटों का वितरण अभी तक नहीं किया गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

सूचना तथा प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) और (ख). जापान से 600 सेट आयात किये गये थे। इनमें से 452 26 अक्टूबर, 1966 तक विक्रय किये गये। शेष 148 सेट रखे हैं, क्योंकि ये आने में खराब हो गये थे।

राजस्थान में राष्ट्रीय सेना छात्र दल का शिविर

1294. श्री श्रींकार लाल बेरवा : क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अक्टूबर, 1966 में राजस्थान में लगे राष्ट्रीय सेना छात्र दल के शिविर में कैंडिडों को मड़ा हुआ आटा तथा कोड़ों वाली रोटी दी गई थी;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि उन खाद्य पदार्थों को फेंक दिया गया था, और उन्हें खाकर 15 गावें मर गईं तथा बहुत से बच्चे बीमार पड़ गये;

(ग) यदि हां, तो बिना परीक्षण किये यह आटा दिये जाने के क्या कारण थे तथा इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है; और

(घ) क्या यह व्यवस्था विभाग की ओर से की गई थी अथवा ठेके के आधार पर ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री श्री म० बामस) : (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) जी नहीं।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(घ) राजस्थान (कोटा जिला) में अक्टूबर, 1966 में आयोजित एन० सी० सी० शिविर में प्रयोग के लिए, जून 66 और सितम्बर 66 के मार्को सहित आटे की ताजा मूलाइए सैनिक अधिकरणों से विभागीयतः प्राप्त की गई थीं।

आयुध कारखानों में हिन्दी का प्रयोग

1295. श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धास्ती : क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या हिन्दी भाषी क्षेत्रों में स्थित आयुध कारखानों तथा उनके मंत्रालय के अन्य प्रतिष्ठानों के कर्मचारियों को अपना कार्य हिन्दी में करने की अनुमति है; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इस स्थिति को सुधारने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री श्री म० बामस) : (क) और (ख). रक्षा संस्थापनों पर लागू निर्देशनों में उपबन्धित है:—

(1) कई उद्देश्यों के लिए सरकारी काम में हिन्दी का प्रयोग, उदाहरणतः उन राज्यों से हिन्दी में लिखापढ़ी जिन्होंने हिन्दी को सरकारी भाषा के तौर पर अपना लिया है, हिन्दी में प्राप्त हुए पत्र का उत्तर देते समय इत्यादि;

(2) हिन्दी भाषी क्षेत्रों में स्थानीय कार्यालयों में जहां शक्य हों फाइलों पर टिप्पणियों के लिए हिन्दी का प्रयोग।

समस्त सरकारी कामों में हिन्दी में शीघ्र ही काम करने लग जाना साध्य नहीं है। सरकार की नीति है कि बिना काम रोके हिन्दी के प्रयोग को प्रगतिशीलता से उन्नति दी जाये।

Pensions to Artistes

1296. **Shri Rama Chandra Mallick:**
Shri Sudhansu Das:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a scheme for providing pensions to the outstanding artistes, who have made significant contributions to the content and quality of musical programmes of All India Radio has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A copy of the scheme is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7304/66].

I. and B. Schemes for Mysore

1298. **Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned for the various schemes of his Ministry during the Third Five Year Plan period for the Mysore State;

(b) the amount spent thereunder for these schemes; and

(c) the programme of his Ministry during the Fourth Plan in that State sought to be carried out with broad features thereof?

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

(a) and (b). The requisite information regarding the various schemes of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting during the Third Plan period for the Mysore State is given below:

	<i>Amount sanctioned</i>	<i>Amount spent</i>
	(Rs in lakhs)	(Rs in lakhs)
1 Development of Broadcasting (installation of transmitters at Dharwar, Bhadravati and Gulbarga)	38.00	28.00
2 Community Listening Subsidy Scheme (Supply of radio sets)	4.91 (as subsidy for 3,925 sets)	3.13* (as subsidy for 2,505 sets supplied upto 31-3-66; and 1.46 (as subsidy for 1,170 sets supplied thereafter upto July, 1966)
3 Participatory Information Centres (set up by State Governments at State capital and other important towns on the basis of sharing cost with the Central Government on 50 : 50 basis)	00.88	00.96**
Final	43.79	33.55

*In addition Rs. 31,250 will be given to Mysore State on claim as subsidy for the remaining 250 sets which were to be procured by the State Government directly.

**The Mysore Government has reported that the actual expenditure incurred by them on participatory Information Centres during the Third Plan period was Rs. 2.185 lakh. In case this figure is accepted by the Accountant General, Mysore, the Central Government's 50 % share will go upto Rs. 1.09 lakh.

(c) The Fourth Five Year Plan proposals of the Ministry have yet to be approved.

श्रीलंका में भारतीय उद्भव के पेंशन पाने वाले व्यक्ति

1299. डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : नया वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या श्रीलंका में भारतीय उद्भव के पेंशन प्राप्त करने वाले व्यक्तियों ने अपनी कठिनाइयों के बारे में सरकार को कोई अभ्यावेदन दिया है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री मु० क० चागला) (क) संसद् के एक माननीय सदस्य द्वारा 90 व्यक्तियों का एक अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुआ है।

(ख) मामला विचाराधीन है।

12 hrs.

RE: MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT

Railway accident at Siliguri

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House that I have received notices of three Adjournment Motions on the railway accident at Siliguri from:

1. Shri Madhu Limaye
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia
2. Shri S. M. Banerjee
Shri Homi F. Daji
Shri B. P. Maurya
3. Shri Kishen Patnayak
Shri Mani Ram Bagri
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia
Shri B. P. Maurya.

They all relate to the railway accident to the Military Special at Siliguri. Mr. Limaye has sent the first notice. He may ask for leave.

श्री मधु लिमये (मुंगेर) अध्यक्ष महोदय . . .

श्री बागड़ी (हिसार): मेरा एक व्यवस्था का सवाल है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: कोई सवाल नहीं है।

श्री बागड़ी: आप सुन तो लें।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: इस वक्त नहीं।

श्री बागड़ी: रेल मंत्री महोदय को पता था कि इतना जरूरी यह सवाल आज आ रहा है। उनको यह भी पता था कि इतना जबरदस्त हादसा हुआ है। वह आज गैर-हाज़िर हो गये हैं और डाक्टर साहब को उन्होंने यहाँ भेज दिया है। वह रोज हाज़िर रहते हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: श्री बागड़ी शुद्ध सिट डाउन।

श्री बागड़ी: उनको इस्तीफा देना चाहिए था। ऐसा न करके उन्होंने बड़ी निर्लज्जता दिखाई है।

श्री किशन पटनायक (सम्बलपुर): क्या इसको लेकर पाटिल साहब ने इस्तीफा दिया है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय: यह सवाल नहीं है।

श्री बागड़ी: रेल मंत्री की फेल्योर कैसे हो गई . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय: फेल हो गये हैं या पास हो गये हैं, इससे मेरा क्या मतलब है ?

श्री बागड़ी: उनको चाहिये था . . .

श्री मधु लिमये: उस तरफ जो लोग बैठे थे शायद वे मेरी बात से सहमत हो जायें और खड़े हो जायें इसलिए मुझे असफलता के बारे में थोड़ा सा निवेदन कर लेने दीजिये।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: जी नहीं।

श्री मधु लिमये: दो मिनट तो दीजिये।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : एक मिनट भी और देने के लिए तैयार नहीं हूँ ।

श्री बागड़ी : आपने क्या व्यवस्था दी है मेरे सवाल पर ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर आप इसी तरह से बोलते चले गये तो मुझे आपको बाहर जाने के लिए कहना पड़ेगा । मैं आपको चार बार कह चुका हूँ । आप मानते नहीं हैं ।

श्री बागड़ी : मैं बैठ जाता हूँ । नहीं बोलूंगा । रोज रेल दुर्घटनायें होती हैं . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : श्री बागड़ी, आप बाहर चले जायें ।

श्री बागड़ी : यह बोल रहे थे, मैं नहीं बोल रहा था ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप बाहर चले जायें ।

श्री बागड़ी : मझे निकालने में आप बड़े तेज हैं । रेल मंत्री को क्यों नहीं निकालते हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप बहस न करें, बाहर चले जायें ।

श्री बागड़ी : रेल भिड़ते ने पाटिल साहब . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप बाहर चले जायें ।

श्री बागड़ी : अभी जो वोटिंग होने जा रही है उसके बाद चला जाऊंगा ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जी नहीं । आप बाहर चले जायें अभी ।

श्री बागड़ी : पाटिल से इस्तीफा मांगिये

(इसके बाद श्री बागड़ी सदन से बाहर चले गये)

श्री मधु लिंगये : मैं एक निवेदन कर रहा था ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इस तरह से वक्त सफ करना ठीक नहीं है । आप इजाजत मांगिये ।

श्री मधु लिंगये : मैं इजाजत मांगता हूँ । रेल दुर्घटना को ले कर केन्द्रीय सरकार की जो असफलता हुई है, उसके सम्बन्ध में मेरा जो काम रोको प्रस्ताव है, उसके लिए मैं इजाजत मांगता हूँ ।

Mr. Speaker: Is there any objection?

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Yes, Sir.

अध्यक्ष महोदय Those in favour may kindly stand in their places. पच्चीस ही खड़े हुए हैं । इस वास्ते इसको नहीं लिया जा सकता है ।

श्री मधु लिंगये : ध्यानाकर्षण ले लीजिये ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह ले लूंगा जब वक्त आवेगा ।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया (फर्रुखाबाद) : मेरा एक व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है, ध्यानाकर्षण के सम्बन्ध में ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जब ध्यानाकर्षण का वक्त आवेगा उस वक्त आप उठा सकते हैं ।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : आप स्थगन प्रस्ताव के पहले लिया करते हैं । वह वक्त बदलता रहता है आपकी मर्जी के मुताबिक । कोई नियम थोड़े नहीं है ।

12.05 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. RAILWAY
ACCIDENT AT SILIGURI

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): On 11-11-1966 at about 3.20 hours, while Military Special No. SP 987 consisting of 23 vehicles hauled by

a diesel engine was running between Sivok and Pilanshat stations on the Siliguri-Alipurduar section of the Northeast Frontier Railway, the train engine along with 6 coaches next to it derailed and capsized, resulting in the death of 14 military personnel and injuries to 33, of whom 10 were grievously injured. In addition, the engine driver and his assistant also sustained simple injuries. The injured persons were sent to Railway and Military Hospitals by medical relief van which was rushed to the site of the accident along with doctors and medical equipment from Siliguri Junction, on receipt of the information of the accident. As a result of this accident, through running of trains on the section was interrupted. To restore through communications, a diversion was constructed and transhipment of passengers was arranged at site in the intervening period.

While the cause of the accident is under investigation, material evidence found at the site indicated the possibility of the track having been tampered with.

The Additional Commissioner of Railway Safety, Calcutta commenced his enquiry into this accident on 13-11-1966.

Mr. Speaker: I will allow questions on this at 5:45 P.M.

श्री किशन पटनायक (सम्बलपुर): अभी क्यों नहीं ले लेते हैं ?

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): Sir, there is a proposal to have a meeting in the Central Hall to celebrate the birth day of the late Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru....

Mr. Speaker: I will take it up at 5.30 and finish by 6.00.

श्री मधु लिमये (मुंगेर) : 197 के प्रन्दर अभी लेना चाहिये ।

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the meeting, Sir, we would request you to adjourn the House at 5.00 P.M.

Mr. Speaker: When I am fixing the questions at 5.30, it means I do not propose to adjourn the House at 5.00.

Shri Priya Gupta (Katihar): Let it be 5.30 tomorrow.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Sir, there are still 20 minutes left for 12.30. We can take it up now.

Mr. Speaker: As if in 20 minutes this would be finished. That is not necessary. The statement has been made. I will allow the questions to be put at 5.30.

Shri Priya Gupta: How long will the House go on?

Leader of the House (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Sir, I was going to make a request to you and through you to the House also. Every year we celebrate Jawaharlal Nehru's birth day function in the Central Hall where you preside. This year also we are going to do the same. If the House agrees I would request the House, through you, Sir, to adjourn at 5.00 today.

Mr. Speaker: Then I will have to take up questions on this statement at 4.30 P.M.

Shri Hem Barua: Sir, there is time let. May I submit, Sir, your decision has been very arbitrary. There is sufficient time now and we can take it up now itself.

Mr. Speaker: The question is not whether there is time at this moment or not. If the Minister is prepared to answer the questions now, I have no objection.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: I have no objection to questions being put at 4.30 or even now. I am ready.

Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi): Sir, are we adjourning at 5.00

Mr. Speaker: If the House so desires, we will adjourn at 5.00.

श्री मधु लिमये : आधे घंटे की बहस को बाद में कभी ले लेंगे ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपने लिखा है—

श्री मधु लिमये : अंतर दिनों दिन रख लाजिये मुझे कोई एतराज नहीं है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अच्छा वान है ।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: In 1966 there have been three major accidents, this being the third one, involving 14 jawans. I feel that this is due to the utter failure of the Railway Ministry, headed by Shri S. K. Patil, who is interested in everything else, except the Railway Ministry, in the efficient working of his Ministry....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It is only elucidation that can be done. This is not an opportunity for attacking Ministers. Now he should ask questions... (Interruptions). Order, order.

श्री मधु लिमये : यह बिल्कुल ठीक और जरूरी है । पाटिल साहब सदन में क्यों नहीं हैं ? वह दुनिया भर का गोरख-बंधा करते रहते हैं । वह हमेशा दूसरे कामों में लगे रहते हैं ।

Shri Priya Gupta: These are facts.

Mr. Speaker: I have asked Shri Priya Gupta earlier also to resume his seat. Now Shri Banerjee might ask his question.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Kindly hear me. Nothing is going to be lost if you permit....

Mr. Speaker: The time of the House is going to be lost by this question.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: During the inter-session period the Minister wanted to resign but Indrajit came to his rescue and said "you should not resign".

Mr. Speaker: I am not concerned with which Ministers should resign. The Calling Attention Notice relates

to only one particular subject and the questions should relate only to that.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: He is so indifferent to the problem that he has not cared to come to the House.

Mr. Speaker: Now he might ask his question.

श्री मधु लिमये : पाटिल साहब क्यों डरते हैं ? वह सदन में क्यों नहीं आए ? वह इस्तीफा दें ।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: He is in the thick of the formation of the Ministry.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Barackpore): He is in Calcutta though the accident is at Siliguri.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Atulya Ghosh is more important to him than the life of the jawans.

Mr. Speaker: I am requesting him again to ask the question.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: In view of the repeated accidents and the Government's failure to take proper precaution, I would like to know whether (a) a judicial inquiry would be conducted to elucidate facts and (b) till such time the Minister will be asked to resign.

Mr. Speaker: It is not for the Minister to say whether he should resign or not.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Let the Prime Minister say that. The Minister should be suspended.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister may answer whether a judicial inquiry would be held.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: No, Sir.

श्री हुकम चन्द कश्यप (देवास) : पिछले दिनों श्री पाटिल ने लगातार चार व्यक्तियों में कहा है कि जिदनी भी रेलवे दुर्घटनायें हो रही हैं, उनके पीछे राजनीतिक दलों का हाथ है । मैं आपके द्वारा प्रधान मंत्री से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उन्होंने

इस बात की जांच की है कि देश में ऐसा कौन सा राजनीतिक दल है, जो देश में तोड़-फोड़ और विद्रोह को भावना फैलाना चाहता है।

डा० राम सुभा सिंह : इस सम्बन्ध में जो जांच को जा रहा है, उस के दौरान में यह बात स्पष्ट हो जायेगी। अभी भी मैंने अपने वक्तव्य में कहा है कि ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि पटरों के साथ ठेड़-आड़ की गई है। इस बारे में जांच की जायेगी।

श्री हुकम चन्द कच्छराय : पिछले तीन चार वक्तव्यों में पाटिल साहब यह बात कहते आ रहे हैं। क्या इस बारे में कोई जांच की गई है ? यह जांच कब तक पूरी हो जायेगी और उसकी रिपोर्ट कब तक आ जायेगी ? क्या इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ लोग गिरफ्तार किये गये हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अभी कोई गिरफ्तार नहीं किया गया है। माननीय सदस्य ने सवाल कर लिया है, जिसका जवाब आ गया है। अब वह मुझे आगे चलने दें।

श्री हुकम चन्द कच्छराय : मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि इस जांच की रिपोर्ट कब तक आ जायेगी। सरकार ने अब तक इस बारे में खोज क्यों नहीं की है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य अब बैठ जायें।

श्री मधु लिमये : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जहां तक कानून और सुव्यवस्था का सवाल है, वह तो पश्चिम बंगाल सरकार के मातहत आयेगा, लेकिन रेलवे की पटरियों तथा अन्य सामान की रक्षा करने के लिये रेलवे प्रोटेक्शन फोर्स का निर्माण किया गया है और अगर मेरी जानकारी सही है, तो इस साल के बजट में 10 करोड़ 10 लाख रुपये रेलवे प्रोटेक्शन फोर्स के लिए खर्च किया गया है। अखबारों में यह खबर आई है कि हो सकता है कि जामूसों

के द्वारा यह दुर्घटना की गई हो। जामूसी कांड में कई लोगों का हाथ है। एक मोहित चौधरी-सुनील दास वाला मामला चल रहा है। अभी अभी प्रधान मंत्री को मैंने एक चिट्ठी सुनील दास की पश्चिम बंगाल के मुख्य मंत्री श्री सेन को भेजी थी, जिसमें सुनील दास ने यह आरोप लगाया था कि केन्द्रीय सरकार के उस जमाने के खाद्य मंत्री और वर्तमान रेल मंत्री, श्री एस० के० पाटिल, ने मोहित चौधरी जैसे जामूसों को

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आर्डर, आर्डर। माननीय सदस्य सवाल करें।

श्री मधु लिमये : अखबारों में आ चुका है कि जामूसों के द्वारा ये काम किये जा रहे हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इस वक्त जामूसी के बारे में जनरल सवाल नहीं है।

श्री मधु लिमये : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह एक सीमावर्ती इलाका है और बहुत महत्वपूर्ण सवाल है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : हर एक बात का अपना मौका होता है। मुझे किसी भी बात के उठाने पर एतराज नहीं है, लेकिन इस वक्त यह सवाल नहीं है।

श्री मधु लिमये : इस से पी० सी० सेन का सम्बन्ध है—अच्छा, मैं सवाल करता हूँ। अगर यह काम जामूसों के द्वारा किया गया है, तो रेलवे प्रोटेक्शन फोर्स क्या कर रही है ? क्या बंगाल में कानून और सुव्यवस्था का इन्तजाम टूट गया है और क्या बंगाल का सारा काम-काज जामूसों के हाथ में है ? इस बारे में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

डा० राम सुभा सिंह : इस का उत्तर जांच की रिपोर्ट आने पर दिया जायेगा।

श्री मधु लिमये : रेलवे प्रोटेक्शन फोर्स क्या कर रही है ?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : वह अपना काम कर रही है ।

श्री हुकूम चन्द कछवाय : कितने लॉग पकड़े गये हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अभी कोई नहीं पकड़ा गया है ?

Shri Hem Barua : There was a practice of permanent gangmen inspecting the track. Unfortunately, that practice has been given up by now and during Shri S. K. Patil's regime as many as 13 accidents of a serious nature have taken place. In that context may I know, why is it that Government have given up that practice and why is it that Government discover the sabotage only after the sabotage is committed and call it an accident?

श्री मधु लिमये : लखीसराय में क्या हुआ, जहाँ 31 लो मर गए ?

If it has been a sabotage, according to the Government, because the fishplates were removed, may I know whether Government are in a position to tell us if there is any foreign hand behind these disorderly scenes in our country?

श्री मधु लिमये : पाटिल साहब का हाथ है ।

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh : Actually, this practice of patrolling the tracks through the engineering agency, which includes gangmen, is still in existence; it was more so during the monsoon period.

श्री प्रिय गूत : ग़लत बात है ।

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh : During the non-monsoon period, from the 15th October it was stopped because after that there was no danger of monsoon. When I say that it is still in existence, it means that this practice has not been eliminated.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hosangabad) : Only suspended.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh : It is in existence during monsoon periods and from 15th October it was stopped on that side because there was no monsoon.

Regarding the number of accidents, if I be permitted to quote the figures of accidents, in 1960-61 the total number of accidents was 2,131 whereas it came down to 1,234 in 1965-66.

Shri Madhu Limaye : Bogus figures!

Shri Hem Barua : On a point of order, Sir. The Minister said about the monsoon. What connection does the monsoon have with the removal of the fishplates? Could the fishplates be removed only during monsoon or during winter also? Does the Minister think like that or not?

Mr. Speaker : If it is being asked whether the Minister thinks like that, it is not a point of order; if I am asked, I am not in a position to say whether monsoon has any connection with it or not.

श्री मोर्य (अलीगढ़) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस सदन में कुछ परम्परायें पड़ी हैं, जिन को सरकार के लोग तोड़ने चले जा रहे हैं। जब माननीय पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू प्रधानमंत्री थे, जिन का आज जन्म दिन है, तब रेलवे का एक हादसा हुआ था। उस वक़्त के रेलवे मंत्री ने कहा था कि यह सब विघाटा के हाथ में है, मैं क्या कर सकता हूँ। दूसरे ही दिन उनको इस्तीफ़ा देना पड़ा था यह बात कहने पर। यह भी वक़्त की नज़ाकत है कि आज पंडित जी की सुपुत्री अपने देश की प्रधानमंत्री हैं। पाटिल साहब दो बार यह कह चुके हैं कि मेरी किस्मत ही कुछ ख़राब है। उन्होंने दो बार किस्मत को रोया है। अगर इस ताड़-फोड़ में किसी राजनीतिक दल का हाथ है, तो वह गूह मंत्री जानें, रेलवे मंत्री जानें और यह सरकार जाने। अब तो ख़ैर, कच्छाण साहब गूह मंत्री हो गये हैं और मेरा खयाल है कि अब हालात अच्छे हो जायेंगे।

तो मेरा प्रश्न यह है

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया (फर्रुखा-बाद) : वाह भाई वाह, चापलूसी अभी से शुरू हो गई ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपका सवाल खत्म हो गया ?

श्री मोर्य : अभी तो पूछ रहा हूँ ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : तो अभी तक क्या करते रहे ?

श्री मोर्य : मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि जब पाटिल जी दो बार यह कह चुके हैं कि कुछ किस्मत ही खराब है, कई बार यह बात साफ हो चुकी है कि तोड़फोड़ की वजह से हादसे नहीं हुए बल्कि रेल मंत्रालय की वजह से हुए, तो मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि अब तक जितने हादसे हुए जब से पाटिल साहब हुए हैं जिनमें उन्होंने यह कहा कि राजनीतिक दलों का हाथ है, तो उसमें कितने लोग पकड़े गए, कितनों पर मुकदमे चले, और उन में से कितनों का कन्विक्शन हुआ ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : काल प्रदर्शन में यह सवाल नहीं आता । (व्यवधान)
मैंने कहा कि

A definite matter of urgent public importance has to be discussed in one Call Attention notice. I cannot open up that debate which he might have in a different manner.

श्री मोर्य : श्रीमन्, या तो आप सवाल न करने देते (व्यवधान) मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब आप बैठिए ।

श्री मोर्य : रेल मंत्री कह चुके हैं कि यह उनकी किस्मत का फेर है

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब आप बैठ जाइए, मैंने आपको तीन दफे कहा है ।

श्री मोर्य : आप उन से भी कहिए इस्तीफा दें । (व्यवधान)

श्री काशी राम गुप्त (अलवर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि फिशलेट के साथ में कुछ छेड़छाड़ हुई थी, अब हमका तात्पर्य वह समझते हैं कि पूरी तरह अलाहिदा नहीं हुई होगी, अभी इससे पहले जब बम्बई में हादसा हुआ था तो यह कहा था कि ऐसा मालूम होता है कि इसमें कुछ राजनीतिक षड्यंत्र है । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या रेलवे के भीतर ऐसे राजनीतिक लोग घुस गए हैं सर्विसेज के भीतर, नौकरियों में कि जिनकी उनको जानकारी नहीं होती, बम्बई में जो कुछ हुआ उसकी जानकारी आज तक नहीं हो सकी कि क्या नतीजा निकला तो क्या मंत्री महोदय बतायेंगे कि किसी एक निश्चित समय के अन्दर इसका नतीजा वह सदन के सामने रखेंगे, इसी पार्लियामेंट के रहते रहते सारी बातें आयेंगी या पार्लियामेंट खत्म हो जाने के बाद में चुप हो जायेंगे और कोई बात सामने नहीं आयेंगी ?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : इसी सदन में इसकी जांच को रिपोर्ट यहां रखवा देंगे ।

श्री विद्यवाच पाण्डेय (सनेमपुर) : श्रीमन्, यह रेल दुर्घटना जो हुई है असाधारण है क्योंकि इसमें रैलिक व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु हुई है और इसलिए मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या मंत्री महोदय किसी बड़े सैनिक अफसर को भी इस जांच समिति में रखेंगे जिससे कि यह मालूम हो जाय कि किस तरीके से विध्वंसकारियों का यह पता लग गया कि इस स्पेशल ट्रेन से सैनिक लोग जायेंगे ?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : यह ए सी आर पर निर्भर है ।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : यह तथ्य निर्विवाद हो गया है कि रेल पटरियों के साथ छेड़छाानी की गई । इसलिए इसमें या तो अफसरों की लापरवाही आती है और जब में अफसर कहता हूँ तो नीचे तक चला जाता

है मामला जो सिगनल वगैरह देखते हैं या जो गैंगमैन देखते हैं उनके ऊपर जो अफसर होंगे आखिर वही जिम्मेदार ठहराये जायेंगे, उनकी लापरवाही आती है और या फिर रेल मंत्री साहब की लापरवाही आती है कि वह अपने अफसरों को ठीक तरह से चलाते नहीं हैं, इस में यह भी बात सुनने में आयी है कि रेल की पटरियां करीब करीब सारे देश में से खराब हो गई हैं क्योंकि फौलाद जो इन पटरियों में इस्तेमाल की गई वह मलायम फौलाद हो गई है और उसके ऊपर मैंने सुना है कि जांच भी बिठाई गई है, तो यह एक घटना अकेली नहीं है, कई ऐसी घटनायें हो गईं और अभी और कई ऐसी होती रहेंगी तो ऐसी सूरत में बिल्कुल साफ सवाल उठता जाता है और यह भी मैं आपको बता दू कि यह नागा इलाके में नहीं यह दुर्घटना हुई है रेल की पटरियों की छेड़छाड़ की, तो या तो कोई वहीं के लोग हैं और या यह मुलायम फौलाद होने के कारण एक जंजीर में खाली एक छोटी सी कड़ी है, ऐसी सूरत में एक ही रास्ता रह जाता है रेल मंत्री के सामने कि वह इस सदन को बतायें कि किन किन अफसरों के खिलाफ उन्होंने कार्यवाही की है जो इसके लिए जिम्मेदार हैं और यह पहली घटना नहीं है, यह घटनायें कई दफा हो चुकी हैं इसी तरह से रेल की पटरी के साथ पुर्ज और पेंच पड़े रहते हैं तो वह बतायें कि किनके ऊपर कार्यवाही की और अगर यह नहीं बताते तब फिर यह इस सदन का पवित्र काम हो जाता है कि मंत्री के ऊपर नियंत्रण रखे, जैसे यहां बार बार कहा गया, उन से इस्तीफा लेने की कोशिश करे।

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : श्रीमन्, जितनी भी बातें कही गई हैं उनमें एक बात यह है कि ट्रेक कंडीशन, तो जो यह दुर्घटना हुई वह प्रातः काल 3 बज कर 20 मिनट के करीब हुई और प्रातः काल ही 1 बज कर 38 मिनट पर एक दूसरी गाड़ी वहीं से गुजरी हुई थी। इससे स्पष्ट है कि ट्रेक

ब्रांडर में या दो घंटे पहले तक या तो घंटे से भी कम पहले तक दूसरा जहां तक अन्य घटनाओं का प्रश्न है।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : इस का क्या मतलब है? अगर मुलायम फौलाद है तो मुलायम फौलाद कोई एकदम से थोड़ा ही इस तरह हो सकता है।

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : यह बात जांच में आ जायगी कि मुलायम फौलाद है या क्या है यह बात जांच की रिपोर्ट में आयगी।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : आप ने जांच पहले से विठा रखी है। क्यों छिपा रहे हैं इस बात को (व्यवधान)

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : इस चीज का जवाब अगर माननीय लोहिया साहब स्वयं देते हैं तो देश इतका जज है कि कौन किस को जहन्नुम में पहुंचाता है और इन को जो दूसरा सवाल है अन्य घटनाओं के बारे में तो उन घटनाओं के बारे में जांच रिपोर्ट समय समय पर जैसे उपलब्ध होती हैं, सदन के पटल पर रखी जाती हैं और इस की रिपोर्ट भी हम रखेंगे और सारी बातें सामने आयेंगी।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : अध्यक्ष महोदय, सवाल बुनियादी तौर पर यह है कि क्या रेल मंत्री ने इन अफसरों के खिलाफ जो बुनियादी तौर पर रेल की पटरियों से छेड़छानी के जिम्मेदार हैं चाहे वह छेड़छानी किसी आदमी ने की हो या पटरियों के खराब होने के कारण हुई हो, उन अफसरों के खिलाफ कार्यवाही की है या नहीं की है और अगर नहीं की है तो रेल मंत्री के ऊपर हाउस का नियंत्रण कायम होना चाहिये।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : ब्रांडर। यह जो दूसरा हिस्सा है नियंत्रण का यह वह कैसे कह सकते हैं, हाउस का नियंत्रण तो हमेशा है....।

(ध्यक्ष) पहले हिस्से का जवाब दे दें कि क्या अफसरों के खिलाफ कोई कार्यवाही की है।

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : जहां कहीं ऐसी बातें मालूम पड़ी हैं वहां पर कार्यवाही की जाती है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : किन्हीं अफसरों के खिलाफ कोई कार्यवाही की गई है ?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : इसके लिए सूचना चाहिए।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : यह अध्यक्ष महोदय, कहीं कोई चीज किसी नतीजे पर निकलेगी आपकी अध्यक्षता में या नहीं ? जब कोई सवाल हो तो नोटिस चाहिये तो का के लिये आते हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं इस को इससे संबंधित नहीं समझता कि इस के लिये वह तैयार होते कि जितन हादसे अब तक हुए हैं उनमें क्या क्या कार्यवाही की गई है।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : इसी हादसे के बारे में। इस का जवाब देने के लिये तैयार होकर क्यों नहीं आते ? (ध्यक्ष)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं इस में क्या कर सकता हूँ ? (ध्यक्ष)

Shri G. N. Dixit (Etawah): On a point of order.

श्री शिव नारायण (बांसी) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप के द्वारा सरकार से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि राम मनोहर लोहिया जी का जो सवाल अभी आया है वह भी हिट है कि यह लोग भी जिम्मेदार हैं, यह जितने बाहरी आदमी हैं, जितनी रोलिटिकल पार्टीज इस कंट्री के अंदर है उन की संबोटेजिंग नीति है (ध्यक्ष)

Shri Kashi Ram Gupta: There is a point of order.

श्री शिव नारायण : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह डिस्टर्ब करते हैं जो आप कंट्रोल नहीं करते हैं (ध्यक्ष)

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Sheo Narain, this is most disorderly. I shall ask him to go out. He may please go out.

(Then Shri Sheo Narain left the House.)

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : अध्यक्ष महोदय (ध्यक्ष)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर आप भी ऐसा करेंगे तो कोई चाहे बड़ा हो चाहे छोटा हो मुझे रेक्शन लेना पड़ेगा।

What does Mr. Dixit want to say?

Shri G. N. Dixit: My submission is this. I have been seeing that before questions on Call Attention Notice are put, speeches are being made. So far as Rule 197 is concerned, it does not provide for such statements or speeches that are being made. In sub-rule (2) of Rule 197 it is laid down that "there shall be no debate on such statement at the time it is made". Even about questions, the rule is silent. It does not say whether questions will be permitted or will not be permitted. It is by convention and by your power that you have permitted this. The rule pre-supposes this principle that the question shall be only to gather information and not to make speeches. You will find that when Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia rises or when Shri Madhu Limaye rises, first of all, he makes several contentions in a speech and then only puts the question.

My submission is that you may kindly stop this practice and allow only questions to be put for eliciting information.

Shri Nambiar (Tiruchirapalli): We do not want to hear any sermons like this. We know the rules very well. This is too much.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: That is a reflection on you, Sir.

Shri Hem Barua: This sermon is directed towards you, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Shri Hem Barua should not get up in this manner and try to speak.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti (Dhanbad): In view of the fact that such tragedies have occurred so many times in the neighbourhood of Siliguri, do Government appreciate that it has nothing to do with monsoon but it is due to sabotage, and as such, may I know whether Government are going to station a special security force in that neighbourhood?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Yes, there is a battalion of Special Force at Siliguri.

श्री प्रिय गुप्त : मैं आपके जरिये मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि अगर उन्होंने अपनी मिनिस्टरी के कागजात को देखा होगा तो उन्हें पता चलेगा कि रेलवे में जो पैट्रोलिंग स्टाफ रखा जाता है, खासतौर से नार्थ ईस्टर्न फ्रन्टीयर रेलवे में, उसके व्यय का कुछ हिस्सा प्रान्तीय सरकार भी देती है और वे लोग रेलवे ट्रेक की रखवाली करते हैं, लेकिन अभी हाल में इन तमाम गैंग मनों और पैट्रोल मैनो को इकानमी के नाम पर हटा दिया गया है .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप सवाल पूछिये ।

श्री प्रिय गुप्त : हम यह पूछना चाहते हैं कि जहां पर यह रेलवे का एक्सीडेंट हुआ है, वह स्थान पाकिस्तान बार्डर, नेफा बार्डर और जहां पर चाइनीज कम्युनिस्ट कमेंट्रेट कर रहे हैं—सिक्किम बार्डर के नजदीक है, इस लिये इन पैट्रोल मैनो का वहां पर होना जरूरी है, सरकार ने इकानमी के नाम पर किस लिये इनको वहां से उठा दिया है । जब कि प्राबोन्शियल गवर्नमेंट अपना खर्च का हिस्सा देने को राजी है, करोड़ों रुपया हम जेनरल मैनेजर और दूसरी बड़ी बड़ी पोस्टों पर खर्च कर सकते हैं, लेकिन इकानमी के नाम पर.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप सवाल पूछिये । He is not asking for information. I shall have to disallow him.

श्री प्रिय गुप्त : हम पूछना चाहते हैं कि इन पैट्रोलमैनो को क्यों निकाला गया ।

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : प्रश्नकर्ता महोदय ने स्वयं कहा है कि ट्रेक की जवाबदेही पुलिस की होती है, रेलवे और राज्य सरकार दोनों की राय से उसकी चौकसी का इन्तजाम किया जाता है, हमारी रेलवे की पुलिस भी राज्य सरकार के ही मातहत है, सब की राय में ही 15 अक्टूबर के बाद गैंगमनों और पैट्रोलमैनो को वहां से हटाया गया ।

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): It was withdrawn from this strategic area?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : विद-ड्रान का सवाल नहीं है ।

Shri Priya Gupta: It is a very important question. You may subdue me, for, I am only a young boy. But kindly allow me....

Mr. Speaker: There is a limit to my patience. I shall have to ask him....

श्री प्रिय गुप्त : मेरी बात सुन लीजिये ।

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: He has worked among railwaymen and, therefore he knows the position.

Mr. Speaker: I know that. But he cannot raise it in this manner. Railwaymen have no licence.

श्री प्रिय गुप्त : अब मेरी बात सुन लीजिये ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : श्री प्रिय गुप्त, आपको बाहर जाना होगा । अब आप बाहर जाइये (Interruptions).

Shri Hem Barua: This is criminal negligence on the part of the Railway Ministry.

Mr. Speaker: That is another matter . . . (Interruptions).

(Shri Priya Gupta left the House)

Several hon. Members rose—

श्री यशपाल सिंह (कंगाना): मेरी अज्ञ यह है कि जिन लोगों ने कांस्ट्रक्शन नोटिस दिया है, उन्हें आप हमेशा कील करते हैं, लेकिन आपने आज मुझे कील नहीं किया

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं तो उस दफा देखता रहा कि आप खड़े हों, तो आपको बुलाऊँ ।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : आप पुझरे तो खड़ा हूँ । जब आप ने पुझारा ही नहीं तो कैसे खड़ा हो जाऊँ ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इस तरह से तो बड़ी मुश्किल हो जायेगी । आप खड़े होंगे तो आपको पुकारेंगे ।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : लेकिन मुझे तो पता नहीं कि आईए में मेरा कौनसा नम्बर है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं उस दफा देखता रहा, आप खड़े ही नहीं हुए ।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : जब रोजाना प्रेस में श्री रेडियो में सिलीगुड़ी का रोना रहता है कि बरों पर हर वकत जामूनी होती है, चाहे वह पाकिस्तान की तरफ से ही या चाइना की तरफ से, हर वकत उन के भेदिये वहाँ बैठे रहते हैं, ऐसी स्थिति में यहाँ का रेल का इलाका मिलिट्री के सुपुर्द क्यों न कर दिया जाय ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो राजेशन है ।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : वे कुछ तो जवाब में कहेंगे ।

Shri Surendra Pal Singh (Bulandshahr): A little over two years ago another very serious accident took place very near the site of the present one. May I know from the hon. Minister whether there is any similarity between the nature or characteristics of these two accidents?

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Family resemblance.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: There was an accident in 1961, not two years ago but about five years ago. I will be in a position to give the exact reply

only when the report of the Inquiry is available as to whether there is any similarity between the two.

Shri P. C. Borooah (Sibsagar): There were as many as 7 major railway accidents in the Assam area during the last year due to sabotage. May I know how far the Home Ministry, rather than the Railway Ministry, is responsible for the failure to obtain intelligence about sabotage activities which are going on on the railway unabated?

Mr. Speaker: I could not follow.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: I have followed it. But it relates to the Home Ministry. The question is how far the Home Ministry is responsible. We function collectively, and whatever has happened, proper precaution is taken.

श्री मधु सिमये : कलेक्टवली इस्तीफे दे देते हैं । इस्तीफे क्यों नहीं दिये ?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Why should we tender resignation? When your Government is formed, we will resign.

Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda (Cachar): The hon. Minister has stated that the gangmen have been गैंग मैन हटाये गये । So far as I could understand, it means removed from there. May I know whether they have been put on duty in that area which is near the Pakistani border?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: All possible precautions are taken by the authority which is responsible to maintain law and order in that area.

Shri R. Rabua (Jorhat): A pilot engine was sent on that track, and within ten minutes of that this accident took place. Is that correct?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: About exact ten minutes I shall have to find out because everything is under inquiry. As I said, at 1.38 a full train passed through that track.

Shri Liladhar Kotoki (Nowgong): May I know whether, in view of the peculiar location of this area between

[Shri Liladhar Kotoki]

Siliguri and Alipur Doars section of the NF Railway, which passes through thick jungles, where there are no adequate arrangements for guarding the railway line, the Railway Ministry, in consultation with the Home Ministry and the Defence Ministry, will set up a very strong organisation for the protection of this strategic portion of this railway?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: This is a suggestion which will be given due consideration.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Kishen Pattanayak.

श्री कृष्ण पटनायक : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं ने एक ध्यानाकर्षण प्रस्ताव का नोटिस दिया था विद्यार्थियों के मार्च के बारे में . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आर्डर, आर्डर ।

श्री कृष्ण पटनायक : वह बहुत जरूरी है क्योंकि विद्यार्थियों का मार्च होने वाला है 18 तारीख को और उस पर सरकार की ओर से पाबन्दी की जा रही है तो मेरा कहना है कि उस पर पाबन्दी लगाने का परिणाम अच्छा नहीं होगा और मैं चाहता हूँ कि मिनिस्टर सहाय इस बारे में स्पष्टीकरण करें ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : ऐसे नहीं हो सकता है । इस तरीके से मैं कोई चीज नहीं लूंगा ।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं नियम 197 के अन्तर्गत व्यवस्था का सवाल उठाना चाहता हूँ ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उठाइये ।

Shri Tyagi: How does it arise? It is not on the Order Paper.

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : संविधान की धारा 74 और 75 बिलकुल साफ बतलाती हैं कि कौंसिल ग्राफ मिनिस्टर्स प्रेसीडेंट को अपने काम को निर्वाह करने में सहायता व

सलाह देगी और किसी एक व्यक्ति को वहाँ पर स्वीकारा नहीं गया है । प्रधान मंत्री की सलाह से बाकी सब मंत्री राष्ट्रपति मुकर्रर करेंगे जिसका कि साफ मतलब होता है कि जिस तरीके से प्रधान मंत्री की संवैधानिक हैसियत है उसी तरीके से हर मंत्री की है और हर मंत्री के कामकाज की जिम्मेदारी के ऊपर इस सदन को निगरानी रखनी है । इस सम्बन्ध में मैं आप को इंग्लिस्तान को एक चर्चा बतला रहा हूँ .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : प्वाइंट ऑफ आर्डर, क्या हुआ ?

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : वह इसलिए कि गृह मंत्री नन्दा साहब ने प्रधान मंत्री को जो खत लिखा उस का एक हिस्सा नहीं छपा था जबकि हमने उस पर बहस की थी । वह हिस्सा अब बाद में छपा है . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : डा० साहब यह सवाल इस वक्त नहीं उठ सकता ।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : पहले मुझे संवैधानिक स्थिति तो बतला लेने दीजिये ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जी नहीं, इस तरह से नहीं उठ सकता है । इस के लिए अलहदा से नोटिस दीजिये ।

श्री मधु लिंगये : नोटिस दिया हुआ है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : दिया हुआ है तो उसे देखा जायेगा लेकिन इस तरह से यकायक तो वह नहीं उठाया जा सकता है ।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : मैं खाली संवैधानिक स्थिति आप के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ । .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जी नहीं इस तरीके से आप नहीं उठा सकते । श्री संजोवय्या ।

12.45 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: DELICENSING
OF INDUSTRIES

The Minister of Industry (Shri D. Sanjivayya): Sir, I made a statement on . . . (Interruptions.)

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (देवास) : मैं ने नोटिस दिया था कि

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आर्डर, आर्डर । इस तरह से मैं नहीं सुन सकता ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : आखिर क्यों नहीं सुन सकते ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जानते है आप ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मैं ने एक इतने महत्वपूर्ण . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब माननीय सदस्य न उठें । श्री संजीवय्या ।

Shri D. Sanjivayya:

श्री मधु लिमये (सुंघर) : आखिर यह है क्या ? कुछबताएँ तो सही कि चल क्या रहा है ? इस तरीके से कार्यवाही चलाने से क्या फायदा ? विषय बतलाइये : क्या रख रहे हैं? हम लोगों को पूछने का हक है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जो पढ़ा जा रहा है उसे तो आप सुनते नहीं हैं और इस तरह से दखल दिये जा रहे हैं ।

He will kindly read it very slowly and distinctly. . . (Interruptions). It may be laid on the Table of the House.

Shri D. Sanjivayya: I lay it on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7299/66].

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): I rise on a point of order. हम लोगों को यह नहीं मालूम कि हो क्या रहा है, इस के बारे में आर्डर पेपर में कुछ नहीं है । उस में तो श्री सुब्रह्मण्यम का नाम है कि वह इस बिल को पेश करेंगे ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं ने कह दिया है कि वह इसे टेबल आफ दी हाउस पर रख दें और उन्होंने रख भी दिया है और मंत्र साहब को उस के बारे में सब कुछ मालूम हो जायेगा ।

श्री मधु लिमये: क्या सदस्यों को यह जानने का हक भी नहीं है ? विषय बतलाने से क्यों इंकार कर रहे हैं ?

श्री स० मो० बनर्जी : आर्डर पेपर में क्यों नहीं आता है ?

12.46 hrs.

PRODUCE CESS (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

The Minister of Food and Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri C. Subramaniam): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Produce Cess Act, 1966.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Produce Cess Act, 1966."

The motion was adopted.

Shri C. Subramaniam: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, section 2, dated 14th November, 1966.

†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

12.47 hrs.

**METAL CORPORATION OF INDIA
(ACQUISITION OF UNDERTAK-
ING) BILL**

**The Minister of Mines and Meta's
(Shri S. K. Dey):** Sir, I beg to move*:

"that the Bill to provide for the acquisition of the undertaking of the Metal Corporation of India Limited for the purpose of enabling the Central Government in the public interest to exploit, to the fullest extent possible, zinc and lead deposits in and around the Zawar area in the State of Rajasthan and to utilise those minerals in such manner as to subserve the common good, be taken into consideration."

Hon. Members are already aware of the background of this matter. My esteemed colleague, Shri Sanjiva Reddy, while moving the earlier Bill in November, 1965, described at some length the circumstances which compelled Government to acquire the undertaking of the Metal Corporation of India. I shall, therefore, only briefly recapitulate the events leading up to the decision of Government to take over and run this Undertaking as a public sector project.

The ancient Zawar Mines which were relatively unknown or in disuse were opened up by the Utilisation Branch of the Geological Survey of India during the last world war. Later in 1944, a private company, Eastern Smelting and Refining Co., obtained lease over these areas. Subsequently, this Company promoted a new company called the Metal Corporation of India Ltd. and a regular lease was obtained in the name of the Metal Corporation of India in 1950. The Metal Corporation of India worked these deposits on a very modest scale since 1950 and even in 1960 the production was only 5,00 tonnes per day.

In January 1960 this company obtained an Industrial Licence to set up a 15,000 tonne capacity Zinc Smelter at Udaipur including corresponding development of mines and recovery of bye-products. In May 1961 Industrial Licence was amended to provide for establishment of a 18,000 tonne capacity smelter and corresponding quantities of bye-products. The whole project was based on the assumption that about 1400 to 1500 tonnes of ore per day containing about 5 per cent zinc would be necessary for the production of 15,000 tonnes of metals. However, it was later on found that the average grade of the ore would be only about 3.5 per cent. These two factors— increase in Smelter Capacity and drop in grade of ore— led to the increase of project estimates from Rs. 670 lakhs to Rs. 1263 lakhs. The company however did not make arrangements for finance before embarking on this programme of expansion. It was only towards September 1963 that the Corporation came up with the revised Capital Estimates involving an increase of about Rs. 593 lakhs. The company initially suggested that it should be granted a loan of Rs. 3 crores to finance the additional expenditure and that it would find the balance of finance through additional equity and internal resources. Subsequently, in July 1964 the company raised the requirement of loan to Rs. 6 crores.

At this stage it may be mentioned that the Industrial Finance Corporation had by then already granted a loan of Rs. 1 crore and stood guarantee to the extent of Rs. 4.5 crores in respect of equipment ordered on deferred payment terms. Thus, in effect, the company wanted to construct a project costing Rs. 12.63 crores with a loan finance of Rs. 11.5 crores, viz. practically with no resources of its own: quite an extraordinary phenomenon. Government examined in detail the techno-economic aspects of the project and came to the conclusion that the company would require another Rs. 7 crores in addition to the loans already granted for bare completion of the project. In spite of this, in

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

view of the strategic importance of lead and zinc, Government were prepared to assist the company in all possible ways consistent with the public interest. But the company had already failed to meet instalments of repayment that had fallen due. The company was also unable to pay the customs duties and port dues and even take delivery of the equipment which it had ordered and which had arrived at the Bombay Port. The company was unable to raise any amount of equity capital of its own. There was, therefore, no justification or basis for granting any additional loans.

At this point I might make a reference to a question on which the company has made a lot of propaganda, namely, prices given for zinc and lead were low and that therefore the company was starved of resources. The company has challenged the validity of the executive orders issued by Government in this regard in a court of law and the matter is *sub-judice*. I will not, therefore, refer to any point at issue before the Court but would like to mention that the company was all along allowed free sale of its lead production. It had been realising exorbitant prices for lead (for example it sold lead at Rs. 4200 to Rs. 4400 per ton during 1964 when the imported material could be obtained at about Rs. 1400 to Rs. 1600 per ton). Even the price of zinc which was fixed in accordance with the advice of the Tariff Commission was higher than that at which the steel companies, to whom this zinc metal was allotted, could have imported the material.

Regardless of this controversy, Government were anxious to find a satisfactory method of helping the company to get on with the project. Negotiations were held with the Metal Corporation of India for more than a year. The representatives of the company continued to harp on their demand of a loan of Rs. 6 crores, although they were unable to raise any equity finance of their own. The question of acquisition by an agree-

ment was also discussed but no acceptable basis could be found. It became abundantly clear that while the company was not in a position to raise the necessary finance of its own it somehow expected Government to grant financial accommodation to it on its own terms, because zinc was scarce and Government was keen on the promotion of indigenous production.

While negotiations were in progress the financial position of the company became very precarious. Not only did it fail to meet the repayments that had fallen due, it failed to find funds to clear the consignments of imported machinery from the Bombay Port. The construction contractors stopped work and the French consultants left and the entire project came to a standstill. On the other hand the Pakistani aggression forcefully underscored the vulnerability of defence effort to scarcity of lead and zinc and added a compelling urgency to the need for producing zinc metal from our own mines in Rajasthan. It was in these circumstances that Government was forced to undertake acquisition by enacting special legislation, viz. The Metal Corporation of India (Acquisition of Undertaking) Act, 1965 (No. 44 of 1965).

As the House is aware the *vires* of this Act was challenged in the Punjab High Court. The High Court delivered its judgment on 14-3-1966 declaring the said Act to be violative of Article 31(2) of the Constitution, because in its opinion the principles laid down in respect of one particular item, namely, plant, machinery and other equipment in Para II(b) of the Schedule to the said Act were not relevant principles and could not ensure the payment to the owner a just equivalent of the properties acquired, as required under the Constitution. As the judgment related to interpretation of Article 31(2) as amended by the Constitution (Fourth Amendment) Act 1954, the Union of India preferred an appeal before the Supreme Court. In a judgment delivered on 5-9-1966,

[Shri S. K. Dey]

the Supreme Court upheld the decision of the Punjab High Court and declared the said Act as unconstitutional.

In this connection I should like to emphasise that the High Court or the Supreme Court did not question the *bona fides* of the legislation. The only point on which the Courts found the Act bad in law was concerning the principles laid down in Para II(b) of the Schedule for determination of compensation.

That the acquisition was in public interest has been admitted by all. Zawar mines are the only important zinc source in the country and it is a matter of national importance that their potential should be developed without any delay. The Metal Corporation of India who held the area on lease did not have and could not muster resources for the purpose. They held the mines for over two decades and in spite of it their total achievement did not go beyond the present rate of production of 5000 tonnes of zinc metal per annum and that also from concentrates which had to be sent abroad for smelting.

The events subsequent to 22-10-1965—the day of acquisition—have amply vindicated the acquisition. Construction work which had come to a stop was restarted after overcoming numerous difficulties.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): Sir, on a point of order. Before you leave the Chair, may I mention it? The Minister has been reading his written speech; he can make it a little more interesting by interspersing a few observations off-hand, *ex tempore*. He need not read it mechanically; it becomes very boring.

Shri S. K. Dey: I am sorry; I will make it completely *ex tempore* when I answer the points raised. But here, because there are many law points. . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The Minister has the right to make his own speech like that.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: But he can look at you, taking his eyes off the script, off and on.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister might continue his speech.

13 hrs.

[SHRI SHAM LAL SARAF in the Chair.]

Shri S. K. Dey: The shaft sinking work had stopped in August, 1964. A fresh contract for this vital job has been signed with a competent engineering firm and the work is going ahead. Consignments of machinery, plant and equipment lying uncleared in Bombay docks since 1964 have been cleared, brought to site, checked and are being erected. The French consultants who had gone away because of complete stoppage of work are coming to resume the work shortly. A new agreement has been already signed. All old liabilities have been settled and a measure of confidence has now been infused in the minds of creditors, staff, labour, etc. By 31-8-1966 a sum of Rs. 5.68 crores had been made available to Hindustan Zinc Ltd., the Government Company, in charge of this project for restarting unfinished jobs and undertaking new development tasks.

After the acquisition of the undertaking had been held invalid by the Courts, it became urgently necessary to provide a legal basis for all actions taken by the Central Government and the Hindustan Zinc Ltd. since the date of original acquisition, i.e. 22-10-1965. It would have been highly detrimental to the public interest to pull out, stop the construction work in progress or let the project revert to the chaos it was in, under the old management. The judgment of the Supreme Court was delivered on 5-9-1966 and the last session of the Parliament concluded on 7-9-1966. It was therefore hardly possible to come to the Parliament with fresh legislative proposals. In the circumstances, the President had to promulgate an Ordinance on 13-9-1966 acquiring the undertaking with effect from the date of the original acquisition i.e. 22-10-65.

I should like to say a few words about the principles of valuation of plant, equipment and machinery which is the main ground of challenge to previous enactment. These items of equipment are to form part of a project which is yet to be completed and taken separately and by themselves would be of no general interest. Further, the project itself was incomplete and even in a completed stage would be unique. The value of this equipment, therefore, could not easily be determined by comparison with other projects or with reference to the marketability of the equipment. Therefore, very careful study was made and earnest attempts made to arrive at an equitable basis of valuation. Ultimately it was felt that there could be no fairer basis than to pay the actual amount spent by the Metal Corporation of India on the acquisition of new plant and machinery. These constitute the bulk of the assets of the undertaking. As far as old plant, machinery and equipment were concerned, it was thought that as they were old and had been in use for several years, their value, depreciated under Income Tax Laws, would be a fair basis for valuation. Hence the provisions of the old Act. These old and worn out items of equipments are comparatively a small part of the total assets. The Courts have, however, held that these principles cannot ensure just compensation; but they have not given any positive indication of what should be the basis of valuation. However, after a careful study of the Supreme Court's judgment we came to the conclusion that it would be fair and equitable to pay the compensation on the basis of value at or about the time of the acquisition and that such value should be governed by conditions prevailing in the market. I have already referred to an inherent difficulty or arriving at a market value of the special purpose plant and machinery, as in this case, designed for this particular project. However in gerence to the views of the Courts we propose to make an effort to determine such a value. In case of difficulties or differences of

opinion a reference will be made to the Tribunal so that a fair and acceptable valuation can be arrived at. The tribunal would consist of a High Judicial Officer.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: What do you mean? A High Court Judge?

Shri S. K. Dey: Yes. It means from the judiciary, a High Court or Supreme Court Judge.

Mr. Chairman: Not necessarily a High Court Judge.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: He does not want to commit himself.

Shri S. K. Dey: It will be so.

It is hoped that the valuation would be fair and just to the Government as well as to the company.

As acquisition would have retrospective effect, provision has been made for payment of interest on the value of net assets as they stood on 22-10-65.

In conclusion I should like to assure the House that the proposed mode of compensation has been evolved with due regard to the judgments of the High Court and the Supreme Court. I may also add that Section 10 provides for compensation being determined by agreement. I have already initiated action for working out the compensation and a special team of officers will be put on this job. It is my intention that as soon as this preliminary work of valuation has been done a negotiating team should be formed to negotiate and come to an agreed settlement on the amount of compensation with the Metal Corporation of India. I hope it would be possible to arrive at a mutually satisfactory solution through such negotiations and a reference to the Tribunal would become unnecessary.

[Shri S. K. Dey]

I would offer my apology to Mr. Kamath for the fact that I had to pursue a method of presentation totally alien to my nature. But the hon. member will understand that this is a highly controversial subject and anything that I say here may be quoted in any further possible litigation that may arise. One thing I do not claim to know anything about is law. Therefore, it was necessary for me to be cautious and I saw no other alternative but to read from a typescript. I am sorry for that.

I commend the Bill for consideration and approval by the House.

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the acquisition of the undertaking of the Metal Corporation of India Limited for the purpose of enabling the Central Government in the public interest to exploit, to the fullest extent possible, zinc and lead deposits in and around the Zawar area in the State of Rajasthan and to utilise those minerals in such manner as to subserve the common good, be taken into consideration.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: What is the time allotted?

Mr. Chairman: Two hours.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: It should be at least 3 hours.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Sir, normally we do support the taking over of any private concern by the Central Government in the larger interests of the country and for the efficient running of that concern. You will remember that the previous Bill which was brought before the House was criticised by almost all the members starting from my respected friend, Mr. A. C. Guha to myself. Practically all party speakers spoke against the Bill. I still remember the statement of my hon. friend, Shri Daji, who said that this is nothing but prostitution of nationalisation.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: On a point of order, Sir. I am sure you will agree that the opener of the debate, particularly if he is from the opposition must have quorum in the House.

Mr. Chairman: The bell is being rung.

The Bell has stopped ringing. There is no quorum yet. The Bell may be rung again.

There is quorum now. The hon. Member, Shri Banerjee, may continue his speech.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, I was saying that I still remember the expression used by my hon. friend, Shri Daji, when this matter came up before this House on the last occasion, when the Ordinance came before this House, where he said that this is nothing but prostitution of nationalisation.

Sir, we pointed out on the last occasion why the Ordinance was issued by the Government and why this Bill had to be brought. The history of this minor corporation, this Metal Corporation of India, is very old. This particular Ordinance has a history behind it. One of the biggest industrialists of this country, who has a pull in this Government, wanted to have a majority share in this Metal Corporation of India. Because the Managing Director and the other directors of the Corporation refused to oblige this big industrialist, Mr. Birla, he brought pressure on the Government and this Ordinance was brought. It was amply explained in this House that no fruitful purpose would be served by nationalisation only of this minor corporation unless all the concerns of non-ferrous metals are nationalised. This was the main question raised during that discussion, and it was very ably mentioned by my hon. friend, the Chairman of the Estimates Committee, Shri A. C. Guha. It is most unfortunate that Shri S. K. Dey, for whom I have the greatest regard, is piloting this

Bill knowing fully well that this House or the Members of this House are opposed to this Bill. As I said, because the Metal Corporation of India, because the persons who are running this concern, could not oblige a particular businessman who has a pull with this Government, this Ordinance was brought and this Bill is now brought to replace it. That is why the Ordinance was opposed and now this Bill is being opposed.

Even after two judgments of the High Court and the Supreme Court this Bill has been brought. The Supreme Court gave a judgment—I speak subject to correction—on 6th September 1966. I agree with the hon. Minister that that judgment only related to the quantum of compensation. But why was this Bill not brought then? We had over six or seven days then. Why could not they bring this Bill then? I want an answer from the hon. Minister.

When the country is facing almost an economic crisis, how can it pay Rs. 30 crores compensation to the Metal Corporation of India? What this public undertaking has been doing is evident from the Financial Memorandum where it is said:

“It may, however, be mentioned that as on 31st March, 1965 (the latest date for which balance-sheet is available) the total paid up capital and the reserves and surpluses of the Company were of the order of Rs. 2.98 crores, and besides, the Company had taken secured loan of the order of Rs. 4.99 crores and unsecured loan of the order of Rs. 1.26 crores.”

Out of this Rs. 5 crores spent by this Government about Rs. 4.36 crores were spent only for clearing back-loans. It is a peculiar thing. Government has spent about Rs. 5 crores—more than Rs. 5 crores but Rs. 5 crores at one time—and out of that, 90 per cent has been spent only for clearing back-loans. When this concern was re-

commended a loan of Rs. 4 crores by the technical committee duly recommended by the Planning Commission, why was not that amount paid?

I am all for nationalisation. I want nationalisation of all key industries, especially of metals like zinc which are much needed in the country. That should be nationalised. But nationalisation at what cost? After passage of this Bill if agreement is not arrived at, what will be the amount of compensation? It is said that it will be referred to an impartial tribunal. The Tribunal will be of a retired High Court Judge or some other member. I do not impute any motive on any member of that Tribunal. But what were the provisions made, apart from compensation?

Immediately after the take-over the first Managing Director of the Hindustan Zinc Limited declared in a Press conference that the zinc smelter would be put into operation on and from November 1965. In August 1966, the succeeding Managing Director declared before another Press conference that the zinc smelter would be put into operation on 1st January 1967. Still I doubt very much whether any agreement has been reached with the French collaborators. A team of French collaborators were to visit this country—supposed to be experts—visit this project, talk to the Government and enter into agreement. I want to know whether any agreement has been reached with the French collaborators; if so, whether a copy of the agreement will be laid on the Table of the House.

Now I come to the question of compensation. What will be the amount of compensation? If the date is changed, if the date after devaluation is taken into account, it will be to the tune of Rs. 32 crores to Rs. 40 crores. Can this Government pay Rs. 32 crores or 40 crores to the shareholders at the cost of the public, at the cost of the tax-payer who has paid through his nose?

Mr. Chairman: He should conclude now.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, I may be given another five minutes.

Mr. Chairman: Only two minutes.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: There will not be many speakers on this Bill.

Mr. Chairman: That is to be seen. Only two hours are allotted for this.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: But there is one hour up your sleeves.

Mr. Chairman: That will depend on the enthusiasm of the members. Now, he should try to conclude.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I will invite the attention of the hon Minister to the arbitration award given in the case of Jessop & Company. What is that award? Rs. 160 for each share. It means that Shri S. P. Jain and other shareholders are going to get about Rs. 26 crores as compensation. Is it worth that? If it is so important, for defence purposes in an emergency, I would like to know the amount of zinc from this mine which was used during the Chinese aggression and during the Pakistani aggression. I doubt very much whether any zinc from this mine was used during that period.

So, I feel that this was taken over with the *mala fide* intention, because the then Minister was interested in big business. That is why it was taken over. Because the persons who are controlling this unit did not agree to the pressure; they could not be bullied, politically, morally or socially; they did not agree to the terms and that is why it was taken over. So, the hon. Minister has to answer to this House, and through this House to the entire country, whether this Government is in a position today to pay Rs. 30 crores or 40 crores of compensation. If they cannot pay it, what is going to happen?

Could we not possibly have an agreement? Let them have an agreement with the concern, with the Managing Director. Let there be equal shares and let there be an attempt to run this concern on a joint venture basis. Because, otherwise the country will not be able to pay Rs. 30 crores. I hope the hon. Minister will apply his mind to this problem and do the needful. I hope he will ensure that the hard-earned money of the tax-payers is not wasted merely on the basis of the whim of a particular Minister, who is now not in the Ministry. With these few words, I would request the hon. Minister to throw some light on this particular aspect of the point.

Shri S. K. Dey: If I may ask for an elucidation...

Mr. Chairman: He may do that at the end.

Shri V. B. Gandhi (Bombay Central South): Mr. Chairman, I am surprised at the attitude that the previous speaker, Shri S. M. Banerjee, has taken. He has been going off somewhat at a tangent. So far as we are concerned, we support this Bill. We also endorse the action that the Ministry has taken in having the President promulgate an Ordinance. Action has been taken very promptly and, I am sure, promptness was called for in a case like this, because what was involved was the activities of the undertaking, and this could not be allowed to be interrupted.

We all know that India does not possess adequate quantities of indigenous lead and zinc and it is very important that the mining and development of the project should not be allowed to be interrupted. That is what the administration has achieved. The zinc smelter, which has now been promised and towards which efforts have long been directed, is yet to come and we have to see that it is achieved without much further delay for after all, a zinc smelter will help in saving valuable foreign exchange. It was also necessary to do something about it, be-

cause already a considerable investment has been made in the acquisition of this undertaking. Something like Rs. 453.5 lakhs has been invested in the capital of the new company, the Hindustan Zinc Limited, and also something like Rs. 2.65 crores has been invested in advances to that company.

This matter was taken to the courts by the Metal Corporation and the Government did very well in going in appeal before the Supreme Court. The courts have considered this matter and we all know that the courts have not questioned the *bona fides* of this legislation; nor have they questioned the competence of this Parliament in undertaking legislation of this kind. The dispute really arises out of the principles which have been laid down for determining the amount of compensation to be paid to the Metal Corporation of India. The principles for determination of compensation have been laid down in the 1965 Act. They are being repeated in the present Bill, of course, with necessary changes in the light of the judgment of the courts.

I have not had the opportunity to go through the judgments of the courts, but I have read the two Schedules, the one appended to the 1965 Act and the one appended to the present Bill. Reading the two Schedules together, one feels that the question involved really was whether the compensation will be determined on the principle of actual cost and written down value of the property taken over or on the market value of the property and assets taken over.

I for one do not quite understand how Government came to think of offering the actual cost incurred by the company in acquiring the plant, machinery, equipment etc. and also in asking the metal Corporation to accept the written-down value according to the Income-tax Act. We should readily concede, in fairness, that the present circumstances are such that no company would be agreeable to

accept under these circumstances the actual cost as the basis of calculating compensation.

What is the situation in the country today? Let me take a very simple illustration. Let us say, there is a spanner and a screwdriver, two very simple tools, and suppose that the Metal Corporation has a number of spanners and screwdrivers to be turned over to the Government who acquire this undertaking. Screwdrivers and spanners, even if they are used, are not easily worn out and they do not become useless through use. A present screwdriver old or new will fetch perhaps five times the price that it cost the Metal Corporation when it was purchased by it, say, about ten years ago. Screwdrivers and spanners are scarce today. They are difficult to obtain and their imports are restricted; therefore, their value is certainly not what it cost the Metal Corporation ten years ago when it purchased the tools.

In view of all these things, I was just wondering whether the Government has had any experience of such transactions, of acquisition of undertakings in which they have offered compensation on the basis of actual cost and written-down value, in any previous instance. If they do not have any experience or instance of that kind, of previous offers made and accepted, it is rather surprising that Government should have thought of making such an offer this time. Perhaps, from the very beginning the market value, which is the principle which now the courts have also agreed to, namely, that the market value should be offered to the Metal Corporation, that should have been offered and that would perhaps have saved us the trouble and the expense of litigation.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi (Jodhpur): Mr. Chairman, the story of the Bill before us is a story of delays and hurried Ordinances and of leisurely amending legislation. Unfortunately, the doubts expressed by some of us at the time

[Dr. L. M. Singhvi]

when the Ordinance was being debated and when the original legislation was discussed here in the House have come only too true.

Although the take-over was effected on the 22nd October, 1965, it seems that very little progress has been accomplished so far. From the financial memorandum appended to this Bill it seems that a sum of about 21.2 lakhs had already been spent between 22nd October, 1965 and 10th January, 1966, and from the reports that I have it seems that this company has very little to show for it on the credit side of the ledger.

I do not know if all the information that I have received is correct or not, but if that is correct, it is a matter of considerable dismay and concern among us. For example, we are told that although considerable time has elapsed, very little progress has been made in getting the whole thing going in the way in which it was promised to this House that it would be got going. It seems that in spite of all this time that has been spent, even the foreign collaborators have not materialised on the scene and there is evidence to show that the machinery which was supposed to be imported and installed here was installed with considerable delay and tardiness.

It seems that through this Bill a mistake is sought to be rectified and this is welcome. This is as it should be in a democratic system of government, that is, when the Government is told by the Supreme Court that a certain part of the legislation or a certain enactment is *ultra vires* of the Constitution, is bad in law, the Government comes to this House to rectify the situation. It is only right that in a case such as this the hon. Minister disclosed to us also the extent and the magnitude of the financial stakes of the country in this undertaking.

It seems to me quite clear from the financial memorandum appended to this Bill as also from the statement of the Minister that the stakes are

very considerable and very significant, and unless we are promised that this unit will function efficiently and effectively, I think the House would continue to feel a considerable measure of concern.

I am told that the lines of management control have not altogether been clear in this unit, that a managing director, who was appointed for this purpose, stayed most of the time in Delhi rather than going to the scene of operations, that even now, apart from considerable labour unrest for which the management is not necessarily and always responsible—I concede that—in terms of management and effective functioning of the unit there is much that is left to be desired. I hope that the Minister, when he rises to reply in this matter, would be able to clear the atmosphere in this respect and would be able to tell us somewhat more about the functioning of the company so far, about the magnitude of our stakes in this new company and how efficiently or how inefficiently this unit has functioned since its take-over because it seems to me that what we are embarking on is a fairly large acquisitioned undertaking and unless the economic justification is put forward before this House, the House would not be justified in concurring with the Government merely because they are seeking to rectify a situation which the Supreme Court has declared to be untenable.

It seems to me that the provision of a tribunal in the present Bill is a welcome provision. If no agreement can be reached, that would perhaps be the sanest and the most effective way of arriving at a financial settlement in respect of this nationalised unit. But I hope that things can get going fast enough in the matter of functioning of this unit. When I raised this question on the last occasion, some Members of the House and, I am sure, the hon. Minister would recall that it was conceded on behalf of the Government—I believe, it was my hon. friend, Shri T. N. Singh, who conceded it in the course of the ques-

tions that I put—that the Government had been put to a loss of nearly a crore of rupees in foreign exchange because of the delays in respect of this unit. I think, that is a matter of record. I should think that continued delay and inefficiency in a unit such as this which, according to the Minister and rightly, is a unit of national importance—it is important also in our defence effort—are dispensed. Therefore, I hope that the Government is able to give a complete justification on the basis of the functioning of the unit as well as what is proposed to be done about energising the functioning of this unit in the near future.

Shri Narendra Singh Mahida (Anand): Mr. Chairman, Sir, necessity is the mother of invention. So, I put this Bill as a necessary measure for lead and zinc, because if we were not short of lead and zinc, I do not think the Government would have been keen to acquire a company and pay a heavy compensation to it. But our defence and other needs are so urgent that they have brought about this Bill and taken possession of the Metal Corporation.

I welcome this Bill. I am glad that in clause 5, they have made some provisions respecting officers and employees of the company. That is a wise decision and we are assured that we shall not change them overnight because we have taken over the company.

In clause 6, we have provided that Directors and managing agents are not entitled to compensation. Compensation as a whole of course, the Tribunal will decide. But the managing agents will not be able to force a decision on us. There is a new trend of our policy, whereby we are doing away with the managing agency system and enforcing a decision on them. That is a quite correct one.

Clause 7 is a very important one in which there is a provision for duty to deliver possession of property ac-

quired and documents relating thereto. I have seen in respect of some companies, when we took over the companies, the managing agents do not handover their documents and agreements. There is the well-known case of the Jayanti Shipping co. in which we had to run after the managing agents to acquire important papers.

In clause 9, we have incorporated the right of Government to disclaim certain agreements because there are various agreements with various companies which they have made for their interest, which the Government may not take over.

The most important clause is 10 which provides compensation for acquisition of the undertaking. Any democratic Government will not take over properties without paying compensation. It is a very wise decision that the Government have appointed a tribunal to look into this, and when there is a case of difference of opinion, we shall be able to straighten up the affairs.

With these words, I wish the company a long life and wish that for a number of years, it produces lead and zinc which are very necessary to us.

श्री श्री० सि० सहगल (जंजगीर): मभा-
पति महोदय, मैं दि मेटल कारपोरेशन आफ
इंडिया (ऐंविजिशन आफ ग्रन्डटेकिंग)
बिल, 1966, का समर्थन करता हूँ और उसके
समर्थन में अपने कुछ विचार रखना चाहता
हूँ ।

आज जो हमारी नेशनल इंडस्ट्रीज हैं,
और जो हमारा डिफेंस डिपार्टमेंट है, वह लेड
और जिंक के बारे में बहुत बुरी तरह से सफर
कर रहे हैं। इसलिये यह जरूरी था कि यह
कदम उठाया जाये। जब एक प्राइवेट ग्रन्डर-
टेकिंग ने, जो काम उसको करना था उसे पूरा
नहीं किया और जितनी चीजों की जरूरत थी

[श्री प्र० सिंह सहगल]

वह उनको वह नहीं दे सकी, ऐसी हालत में यदि इस तरह का एक कारपोरेशन बनाया जाये तो हमें उसका स्वागत करना चाहिये और खासकर मंत्री महोदय को धन्यवाद देना चाहिये कि वह इस बिल को लाये हैं।

आज करीब-करीब बीस सालों से यह जो काम यहाँ चल रहा था वह प्राइवेट सेक्टर के हाथ में था। उन लोगों को जिस तरीके से हमें गुड्स को डिलीवर करना चाहिये था, उस तरह से चूँकि उन्होंने नहीं किया और जिक और लेड डिपॉजिट्स से जो फारेन एक्स्चेन्ज हमें मिलना चाहिये था वह नहीं मिलता, इसलिये यह कदम उठाना आवश्यक था। यदि आप देखेंगे तो आपको पता चलेगा कि मेटल कारपोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया ने 1965 के उस एक्ट 44 को एक रिट पिटिशन के जरिये से पंजाब हाई कोर्ट में चेलन्ज किया। पंजाब हाई कोर्ट ने 14 मार्च, 1966 को फैसला देते हुए कहा कि यह एक्ट कांस्टीट्यूशन के आर्टिकल 31(2) को बायोलिट करता है इसलिये नाजायज है। इसके बाद यूनियन ऑफ इंडिया की तरफ से सुप्रीम कोर्ट में पंजाब हाई कोर्ट के फैसले के खिलाफ अपील की गई, लेकिन सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने भी अपने 5-9-66 के जजमेंट में पंजाब हाई कोर्ट के फैसले को अग्रहॉल्ड किया और उस एक्ट को अनकांस्टीट्यूशनल डिक्लेयर किया। इन सारी चीजों का कर लिया गया है। उसके बाद गवर्नमेंट के पास और कोई रास्ता नहीं रह जाता सिवा इसके कि वह इस बिल को लाये। हमका जो फारेन एक्स्चेन्ज मिल सकता है उसको लेने के लिये इसके अतिरिक्त और कोई तरीका नहीं है, इसलिये मैं इस बिल का पूरी तरह स्वागत करता हूँ।

इसके साथ साथ मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस बिल के पांचवें क्लॉज में आपने जो निर्णय लिया है इस कम्पनी के ऑफिसर्स और एम्प्लॉयीज के सम्बन्ध में वह बहुत वाजिब कदम है। मैं समझता हूँ कि जो कमेटी बनेगी वह इसे ज़रूर देखेगी।

इसके अलावा जो यह रक्खा गया है कि जो भी डाइरेक्टर्स होंगे या मैनेजिंग एजेन्ट्स होंगे वह कम्पेन्सेशन के लिये एन्टाइटल्ड नहीं होंगे, यह बहुत ठीक रास्ता अपनाया गया है। इसका कारण यह है कि यदि इस तरह से आप मैनेजिंग एजेन्ट्स और डाइरेक्टर्स को कम्पेन्सेशन देते चले जायेंगे तो हम जो नया रास्ता अपनाना चाहते हैं जनता की ज़रूरतों को पूरा करने का, उनको पूरा नहीं कर सकेंगे। इस लिये यह जो क्लॉज रक्खा गया है, मैं उसका स्वागत करता हूँ। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस विधेयक का समर्थन करता हूँ।

Shri S. K. Dey: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am sorry that my friends from the Opposition who had raised quite a number of questions are not here to hear my reply.

Mr. Chairman: All the same, it is recorded.

Shri S. K. Dey: As I have stated earlier and, as the House is fully aware, it is not that we are acquiring the company for the first time. The company was acquired in the year 1965 and it is in operation under hundred-per-cent Government control. So, I could not quite understand what my friend, Shri S. M. Banerjee, had in mind when he wanted us seriously to consider whether it is worth-while acquiring this or not acquiring this. It has been taken possession of and it is under operation and it fits strictly into the pattern of policies followed by the Government in regard to mining and exploitation of non-ferrous metals.

What we have to consider is whether this Bill, as it has been presented, complies with the requirements envisaged by the judgment of the Supreme Court. We have studied this matter very thoroughly in the Ministry of Law and elsewhere and we are convinced that what has been provided for here will constitute adequate compensation to the original owners. I am very sorry that Shri S. M. Banerjee repeated the allegations that this undertaking was taken over because of some pressure from Birla or somebody else and that the intentions

of the Government were *mala fide*. The fact that no private individual, big or small, anywhere in the country has anything whatsoever to do with this Corporation and that it is running as a hundred-per-cent public-sector organisation ever since it was taken over will vindicate the position of the Government as was enunciated by my esteemed predecessor when he introduced the Bill in the first instance in the year 1965.

Shri S. M. Banerjee raised the question that the Supreme Court's judgment was given on the 6th September and why could we not introduce the Bill before the Parliament adjourned. I have already mentioned in my introduction to the consideration of this Bill that the Supreme Court delivered the judgement on the 5th September and the Parliament adjourned on the 7th September; the interval was too short for drafting a new Bill, studying the implications of the Supreme Court's judgment and bringing it before the Parliament. The ordinance was inescapable if the undertaking which was in operation was to continue operating without serious dislocation.

Mr. Banerjee enquired whether there has been any agreement with the French collaborators. I am very happy to report that we sent a team of our officers to France when we failed to come to an agreement with them through negotiations by correspondence and we have finalised a fresh agreement with Krebs & Co., of Paris and Penarroya of Paris who are the technical consultants for this job; they have already been paid an advance and the specialists of this Organisation are arriving in India before the end of November, according to the latest advice received from them to supervise the work of erection and finalisation of the smelter which is already under erection by our own engineers.

Mr. Banerjee asked how could Government pay compensation after devaluation.

The question of payment according to the prices prevailing after devaluation does not arise because the Company was taken over long prior to devaluation and the compensation will be payable only with respect to the date on which the undertaking was acquired; of course, by also paying suitable interest for the interval before we are in a position to pay the compensation, as I have already explained.

I have already answered his question about the *mala fide* of intentions on the part of my esteemed predecessor. I do not believe I have to labour this point any further.

Mr. Gandhi asked whether Government have the experience of taking over undertakings of this type. I may state that Government has always been taking over undertakings from different people: for instance, the Rehabilitation Ministry had to take over a large number of undertakings for rehabilitation of displaced persons; the L.I.C. has taken over quite a number of undertakings; and these are being run by Government under its control.

We provided compensation according to our best judgment, based on past experience, but this was questioned by the High Court and later on endorsed by the Supreme Court. We have no escape out of what the Supreme Court has delivered as its judgment and, therefore, we have tried to adjust it according to the Supreme Court's judgment.

Dr. Singhvi raised quite a number of questions. He mentioned that the story of the undertaking was a story of delays, ordinances and so on. I would not deny the fact that the story of this undertaking, namely, the Metal Corporation of India, has been one of inordinate delays and very little action for years together; for nearly 20 years, this Corporation was in action and they did very little; it was only lately that they became alive and began to put some ginger into the undertaking

[Shri S. K. Dey]

and even that was found wanting when heavy investments were called for; they were totally unable to raise the independent finances necessary or to provide the necessary management that was called for. Since the Government took over, many preliminary steps have been taken. The hon. members of this House, I am sure, will appreciate the fact that zinc mine and zinc smelter are matters in which we do not have much of experience in this country and whatever expertise we have will be more of a theoretical nature than of a practical one because we do not have any previous experience to go by; that has been one of the reasons for the delay. Secondly, when an organisation of this nature changes its management from private control to public control, there is bound to be a period of adjustment, during transition, of employees, of methods of work and of labour to the new patterns of operation. Then practically everything had stopped; as I mentioned in my introduction, the building contractors had stopped work; the contractors who were laying the shaft had stopped work; expensive and specialised equipment and equipment which we do not manufacture in this country had arrived at the docks and been lying exposed to the vagaries of the weather and not taken delivery of for want of finance. All these difficulties had to be overcome.

I would very briefly like to state the progress in some of the fundamental work that had to be done. Mining equipment valued at about Rs. 80 lakhs, which was lying in the Bombay Port for two years without being taken delivery of by the previous management, has been lifted and been transported to the site. As I have already mentioned, the previous management had given the contract for shaft sinking work to Cementation Company; it had stopped its work; now a fresh contract has been finalised with the same company after a long interval of time; that company has

resumed its work. Lead-lining work of the zinc smelter has also recommenced. Water and power supplies for the project have been ensured through agreement with the Rajasthan Government. A fresh agreement has been signed with the French collaborators and they are coming. The liabilities of the Metal Corporation of India to the extent of about Rs. 472.48 lakhs were discharged by the Hindustan Zinc Limited. Then the Corporation has interviewed the technical experts—whatever we could secure in this country through applications invited through Press; selections have been made and technical specialists are coming forward to work in the project. The question of lack of clarity in the line of command should not arise because we are just at the beginning of the operation. As I have said, the efforts of our local engineers deserve to be commended. Despite the absence of adequate experience they have done in a good job of installing the smelter, the concentrator and other things with the instructions given in the books accompanying the equipment.

14 hrs.

The House is perhaps aware that some time ago, I think about a couple of months ago, about 14 Members of this House, both from the Opposition and from . . .

Mr. Chairman: I think it would save a little time if only the points raised by the hon. Members who have spoken are met.

Shri S. K. Dey: I was mentioning about the visit of 14 Members of Parliament. They have also seen this undertaking in actual action, and they have made some recommendations which we have found very useful and we have acted on most of the recommendations.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi had said that the managing director was mostly in

Delhi. I do not know. We have a managing director in Shri Nagendra Bahadur who has his headquarters at Udaipur and he stays there most of the time and we find it difficult to get him here to Delhi. In fact, even today. . .

Mr. Chairman: He may have seen him in Delhi.

Shri S. K. Dey: He may have seen his predecessor or someone else. I do not know.

He was asking for the economic justification for the costly project. The economic justification is very simple. We have to have lead and zinc in this country. If our industries, both defence and others, are not to grind to a halt in the absence of these scarce raw materials, for which we have been almost exclusively dependent on imports from outside, it is very necessary that we should have them within the country. If a country were to be dependent on such scarce commodities from outside even for its defence effort, then that is a very risky venture and I am quite sure that no one would recommend that when we have resources of our own which we can develop, the country should not go forward and do it.

A question was raised about the total implications of this and what we were investing in this enterprise. As far as the total expenditure to be incurred by Government as a result of the acquisition is concerned, I may mention that the corporation was implementing a project which was estimated to cost about Rs. 12.60 crores. The estimates had, however, been made by corporation some time ago, in 1963, and they would require upward revision due to devaluation, damaged and missing equipment, interest charges, delays in completion etc. In addition, the corporation had assets of the book value of about Rs. 1.7 crores in the form of the lead smelter at Tundoo, the mining and milling equipment at Zawar and

stocks of concentrates of metals etc. The total non-recurring expenditure involved in the acquisition would, therefore, be equal to the actual cost of the implementation of the project, namely Rs. 12.6 crores (original estimate) plus the actual value of the other assets with a book value of Rs. 1.7 crores. The total non-recurring expenditure without revision of the project estimate and at the book value of the other assets will, therefore, be of the order of Rs. 14.3 crores. The compensation payable to the corporation is included in the total expenditure I have just mentioned. The actual amount of compensation, however, will depend upon the valuation of the assets and liabilities in accordance with the principles laid down in the Schedule.

I may mention that we have since discovered fairly heavy deposits of zinc and lead and allied metals in areas outside Zawar where the Metal Corporation of India was operating this project, and it is expected that once this project gets into strides, the concentrator and the smelter would be in operation to their full capacity, and that we should be able, based on this experience, to expand the capacity to take care of deposits which we have since located elsewhere and which we would also be mining.

Shri Narendra Singh Mahida made a comparison with the Jayanti Shipping Co. The question of Jayanti Shipping Co. does not arise because this is a 100 per cent public sector corporation with no managing agency. The managing director is appointed by Government, and there is a board of directors . . .

Shri Narendra Singh Mahida: My point was only in regard to the documents. The Jayanti Shipping Co. did not hand over their documents to us. So, I said that we should be careful to have all the documents and all the agreements, etc., from them.

Shri S. K. Dey: I am very grateful to the hon. Members for supporting this measure and for no one questioning the *bona fides* of the action taken by Government.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether the market value of the assets will considerably increase as on the 13th September, 1966, due to devaluation and whether...

Mr. Chairman: That point has already been replied to. The hon. Member was not here at that time.

Shri S. K. Dey: I have answered that point already.

Shri Narendra Singh Mahida: May I know whether the Rajasthan Government have made any contribution towards this project in any form?

Shri S. K. Dey: I would say that there is no financial contribution by them, but certainly the Rajasthan Government will be expected to provide water that we require for the project, and electricity, and also help us in maintaining law and order and settling labour problems etc.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the acquisition of the undertaking of the Metal Corporation of India Limited for the purpose of enabling the Central Government in the public interest to exploit, to the fullest extent possible, zinc and lead deposits in and around the Zawar area in the State of Rajasthan and to utilise those minerals in such manner as to subserve the common good, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: There are no amendments. So, I shall put all the clauses together to vote.

The question is:

"That clauses 1 to 18, the Schedule, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 1 to 18, the Schedule, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

Shri S. K. Dey: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed".

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

The motion was adopted.

14.09 hrs.

COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The Minister of Law (Shri G. S. Pathak): I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Companies Act, 1956, be taken into consideration."

This Bill replaces with slight modification an Ordinance which was passed some time ago.

I shall very briefly give to this House a summary of the amendments which are sought to be made by this Bill and then I shall state with reference to a few provisions what the principles involved are.

Now, the broad features of the amendments are these:

(1) It has been made clear that it is only the blank form of transfer of shares which should be presented to the prescribed authority for date-stamping before it is executed by the transferor;

(2) A minimum period of two months from the date stamped by the prescribed authority has been provided for registering with the company the completed instrument of transfer of shares in case of 'listed shares'. This has been done to remove any hardship likely to be created by shortage of time before the closure of register of members of the company for completing the formalities connected with the registration of transfers;

(3) It has been made clear that the expression "commencement of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1965" occurring in section 108(1B) refers only to the date of coming into force of the provisions of the relevant section of the Act, viz., 1st April, 1966;

(4) Transfers of shares effected on the transfer forms in vogue prior to 1st April, 1966 and during the period of six months thereafter (or upto the date of first closure of the register of members of a company after 1st April, 1966, whichever is later) have been validated;

(5) The scope of the existing exemptions has been enlarged so as to include cases of shares—

- (a) held by nominees within the ambit of section 49(2) and 49(3);
- (b) held in trust in respect of which a declaration has been made to the Public Trustee under section 153B of the Act;
- (c) held by a Corporation owned or controlled by the Central or a State Government in any other body corporate in the name of a director or nominee; and
- (d) deposited with the Central or a State Government or any corporation owned or controlled by the Central or a State Government.

It has also been provided that in the case of transfer forms relating to shares deposited with the authorities specified in the section or held by nominees or declared Trusts, the company, Public Trustee, the Bank, the Institutions, the Government or Corporation, should endorse the date on which the shares are released and such shares shall be delivered within a period of two months from the date of the endorsement, to the company for registration.

(6) Shares held by nominees of the President or Governor, in a company are exempted from the scope of the restrictions on blank transfer except that every instrument of transfer which is executed on and after 1st October, 1966 shall be in the prescribed form.

Further, the amendment also empowers Government to approve banking companies (other than scheduled banks) or financial institutions with effect from a retrospective date not earlier than 1st April, 1966.

It has also been clarified that applications to the Central Government for extension of time can now be made either before or after the expiry of the periods prescribed for presentation of the completed instruments of transfer to the company for registration.

All these amendments have been made with retrospective effect, that is, with effect from the 1st April, 1966.

By another provision in the Bill, Government has also validated the orders issued by the Chairman or any other member of the Company Law Board acting individually during the period prior to the 15th October, 1965, that is, the date on which the provisions of the Companies (Amendment) Act of 1965 (with the exception of sections 13 and 46) were brought into force.

[Shri G. S. Pathak]

This is a simple amending Bill which seeks to remove difficulties experienced after the introduction of sub-sections IA, IB, IC and ID in section 108 by the Companies (Amendment) Act of 1965. It also removes certain doubts and supplies some omissions. Some defects have also been removed.

It is not necessary for me to take each clause and explain the reasons. They are very clear, but in case it is necessary, I shall do it when speeches by Hon. Members are made and reference to these clauses is made.

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Companies Act, 1956, be taken into consideration".

Shri Dinen Bhattacharya (Serampore): I rise to oppose this amending Bill, whatever might have been stated in the statement of objects and reasons and whatever has been said by the hon. Minister in his speech just now. It is said that the amendment has been brought forward only to restrict and regularise blank transfers. But in reality, the provisions are so weak that it will allow the continuation of transfer of blank shares in a new form. The new company law has failed to stop malpractices by persons who control the companies.

In this context, I may refer here to what Shri D. L. Mazumdar, Secretary of the Department of Company Law Administration, said while dealing with the criticism of the absence of any effective provisions in the Companies Act against anti-social practices, namely, that no provisions in the Companies Act can deal effectively with this evil unless they are to be so drastic as to destroy the foundations of competitive market in the country.

By this amendment, nothing has been done to prevent the malpractices which are carried on in the stock

exchanges which are, so to say, the breeding ground for the malpractices indulged by the big companies. Before the Companies Act was amended, a Select Committee was set up to examine the matter on the basis of the recommendations of the Vivian Bose Commission. But the main point in the Vivian Bose Commission Report was concerned with blocking the way through which these big companies mint large amounts of black money and evade taxes. But the amendment that has been brought here is otherwise, to regularise blank transfers. Banks and financial institutions which are controlled by these big companies have been given the green signal through which they can get the same benefits which they were previously getting by way of blank transfers. This amendment will in no way check the minting of black money and surreptitious ways of evading taxes by the big companies. I would have preferred, and that should be the stand of the Government also, completely banning blank transfers, because this Bill will not change the malpractices so much prevalent, into which so many committees have enquired; it will not, in the ultimate analysis, in any way change the situation.

I know several companies about which some enquiry is going on, for instance Aminchand Pyarelal, whose capital only some years back was Rs. 10 lakhs, but now their total capital has come to more than Rs. 10 crores. From where did they get the money?

This is one of the sources of minting money, and they have adopted this method, and this will continue. The amendment which is meant for checking this misuse of blank transfers will not be effective in any way in this form. So, I would have liked the Government coming forward with a real measure by which this sort of making black money and this sort of giving ample powers to banks and financial institutions, which are also controlled by these big companies,

may be completely checked. So, if the Government wants to create a real atmosphere to stop these companies from making black money by the use of these blank transfers and other malpractices, they should come forward with a comprehensive amendment, so that these practices may be stopped. With these words, I oppose this amendment.

Shri V. B. Gandhi (Bombay—Central South): We welcome this Bill, and we also endorse the action taken by Government in having an ordinance promulgated on 21st September, 1966. That was prompt action taken and that was necessary, because what was involved was the unhindered operation of the stock exchanges in the country and the capital market. We had to ensure that this unhindered operation was continued.

The provisions of the last Act of 1965 were brought into force on 1st April, 1966, and within less than six months, i.e., on 21st September, 1966, Government has had an ordinance promulgated. That is commendable action, but what is it that made this ordinance and amendment necessary so soon after the passing of the 1965 Act?

The reason has already been given in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, and I must say that the reason has been given with admirable frankness. It states:

"These new provisions were brought into force on 1st April, 1966, but immediately thereafter questions arose as to whether the effect of these new provisions was only to regulate and control the currency of blank transfer of shares or to prohibit them altogether."

There is rather unusual candour in the statement, I therefore welcome it. It is more honest.

The question before us is that people had begun to wonder what exactly was the object of the Government in the 1965 Act. Was it simply to control and regulate the currency of blank transfers, or was it virtually to prohibit blank transfers, because it looked as if the provisions of the 1965 Act would lead to a virtual prohibition of blank transfers. Already, there is a general feeling prevailing in this House as well as outside that the company legislation is usually brought forward in haste and in a form which is half-digested. Only last week we had the Company Law (Second Amendment) Bill. This week we have this Bill before us. All this emphasises the desirability of seeing that the legislation in the matter of company law is brought forward after a little more mature deliberation, and it also emphasises the desirability that there should be consultations with the interests concerned. For instance, in the present case if there had been proper consultation with the authorities of stock exchanges and capital market in the country and other allied interests, probably we would have been saved the necessity of having to come before this House with the present Bill. Proper time should be taken in preparing these Bills and, as I said, there should be mature and deliberate thinking done on the subject. Now, I will come to some of the specific points on the subject. Let me in the first place begin by saying that we welcome this Bill because it is an improvement over the 1965 Act; it also liberalises the provisions in some respects. The provisions of the present Bill have enlarged the scope of the existing exemptions which now include various categories of shares such as shares held by nominees within the ambit of section 49(2) and (3) shares held in trust in respect of which a declaration has been made to the public trustee under section 63 of the Act, share held by corporations owned or controlled by the Centre or State Government, shares held in any other body corporate in the name of the

[Shri V. B. Gandhi]
 director or his nominee and shares deposited with Central or State Government or any corporation owned or controlled by the Central or State Government. I repeat that I welcome this element of liberalisation in the provisions.

There are two other small points to which I shall refer before I close. One is that to know that there are a number of trusts to which section 153 is not applicable and such trusts are in a great majority. I would plead that something should be done to so extend the scope of exemptions as to do something for these trusts. In fact section 153 (b) does not apply to any trust unless (i) the trust has been created by an instrument in writing and (ii) the amount of the trust money invested in the shares or debentures of any single company exceeds one lakh of rupees and where it exceeds one lakh of rupees, it does not exceed Rs. 5 lakhs or 25 per cent of the paid-up share capital of the company whichever is less. As I have said this category of trusts is in a majority and therefore, I would plead that Government should give some consideration and see that some relaxation is made in their favour.

The last point is that the new provisions require that every instrument of transfer should be presented to a specified authority and that authority shall put his stamp or endorse the date of presentation on the instrument. One would easily concede that this would lead to quite a considerable difficulty because the officer in this case intended is the registrar of Companies. The Registrar of Companies will have a tremendous lot to do if all the instruments of transfer had to come before him for being endorsed or stamped by himself. The idea that I have in mind and which has been suggested in many other quarters is that it is not necessary that the registrar alone should be the authority vested with that function; it could be given to other authorities. One alternative can be to place the responsibility of date-stamping on the stock exchange or other authorities

duly authorised to undertake this work. I do hope that Government will seriously consider these suggestions that I have made.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Mr. Chairman, I have heard patiently the speech of my hon. friend, the Minister in charge of company law. I am not yet convinced that the passage of this Bill could put a stop to some of the malpractices that go on.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (देवास): सभापति: महोदय, मेरा व्यवस्था सम्बन्धी प्रश्न है। यहाँ पर इतना अच्छा भाषण हो रहा है और सदन में गणपूर्ति नहीं है।

Mr. Chairman: The Bell is being rung.

Now, there is quorum. The hon. Member may continue.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : सभापति महोदय, अभी कोरम नहीं है। क्या कार्रवाई बिना कोरम के चलेगी।

Mr. Chairman: Will you please sit down? Order, order. Carry on, Mr. Banerjee. There is quorum.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Mr. Chairman, Sir, what I was referring to was, whether this particular amendment will serve the purpose for which it is being enacted. All these amendments to the company law are being brought before the House in pursuance of the recommendation of the Vivian Bose Commission. You know some of the recommendations of the Vivian Bose Commission were just to plug the loopholes in the present law so that the malpractices indulged in by the various companies may not be there.

About the transfer of shares, if you really consider the big concerns—I do not want to name them—they go on transferring shares and sometimes benami shares are also transferred to hoodwink the shareholders. Sometimes it is done with the connivance of the shareholders, and sometimes the shareholders do not know what it is and what is done. According to the Vivian Bose Commission's report,

everything except the wife belongs to the company; they have been able to build so much in the name of the company; in the name of the company, they possess cars; in the name of the company they buy pieces of land. With the exception of the wife, everything belongs to the company. So, naturally, when we discuss the company law, we discuss the various kinds of things which have come to our notice and we have before us the various malpractices committed by the various companies.

My hon. friend Shri Dinen Bhattacharya has mentioned something about Messrs. Aminchand Pyarelal. What was the financial condition of this concern in 1955? They had a paid-up capital of only Rs. 10 lakhs to Rs. 15 lakhs. What is it today? They are the owners of so many big concerns, and they have a paid-up capital—I do not know to how many crores it runs—definitely today, a property of movable and immovable to the tune of Rs. 10 crores to Rs. 15 crores. How did they manage to get so much within these six to seven years? They manipulated and manipulated, and sometimes with the help of the government agencies, they manipulated to build up a fortune.

When I speak on this Bill, during the stage of the general discussion, I have before me some of the concerns which certainly are mismanaging not because of anything else but because of their own creation. The hon. Minister also comes from the same State from which I come. I come from a city of poverty and plenty, and I know what is happening in some of the big business houses belonging to some concerns. I want to take this opportunity to mention before the hon. Minister, through you, the poor plight of the editor of a weekly newspaper called *Citizen*, and how this gentleman has suffered at the hands of big industrialists—Shri Ram Rattan Gupta—and the company law could not decide this case even after the lapse of six to 10 years. Mr. Mehra is now the

victim of Shri Gupta and the company law administration, I would request the hon. Minister kindly to see that his machinery, which should be like Caesar's wife, above suspicion, should not be utilised by big industrial bosses. What did Shri Ram Rattan Gupta do? Why I am bringing forward these things is this. He indulged in the transfer of shares because he is afraid that his concern, Lakshmi Ratan Cotton Mills, is likely to be taken over by the Centre. So, there is a fear in his mind; he is suffering from a fear psychosis, and rightly so. That is why he will manipulate and transfer all his shares and ultimately this Government will be left scrap and a big boundary wall in the Lakshmi Ratan Cotton Mill. The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh has recommended taking over of this concern but the Central machinery has not started functioning as yet. Only the other day I came to know that the committee under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act has been appointed and the committee visited Lucknow, and had a talk with the Chief Minister and other people and later on visited Kanpur also. They said it would take three months to take over this mill. This particular industrialist has committed so many mismanagements. In the matter of income-tax, in respect of the Lakshmi Ratan Cotton Mill, Shri Gupta has admitted before the Income-tax Investigation Commission that they had up to 1950-51 paid a tax on an income of Rs. 1.25 crores, for which they were required to pay about Rs. 51 lakhs by way of taxes. They have made a big fortune from war supplies and blackmarketing. What happened? You remember that there was a furore in both the Houses when it was declared by the Finance Minister either here or in the other House that Rs. 31 lakhs of income-tax was remitted—

Shri Hukam Chand Kachhavaia:
There is no quorum.

Mr. Chairman: The bell is being rung.—

[Mr. Chairman]

Now there is quorum. Shri Banerjee may continue.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Shri Ram Rattan Gupta influenced the Finance Ministry to the extent that a sum of Rs. 31 lakhs or Rs. 32 lakhs which was the arrears of income-tax from him were written off. It was said that he has no capacity to pay. But his affairs are known to the company law administration. Several representations have been made both to the Minister and the Secretary of the particular Department. Both Mr. Ram Rattan Gupta and his brother Mr. Ram Gopal Gupta claim to be 'poor'. And, on the basis of this feigned poverty they got the Government of India in the Finance Ministry to write off Rs. 32 lakhs income-tax arrears. Shri Ram Rattan Gupta stated his annual income to be less than Rs. 5500 and Shri Ram Gopal Gupta stated his annual income to be only Rs. 12,000. It is for the company law department to appoint a special officer to investigate into this concern. They almost purchased a seat in the Rajya Sabha. Shri Ram Gopal Gupta has publicly claimed to have contributed Rs. 1 lakh to the Swatantra Party.

They are going to transfer their shares and ultimately declare that they have nothing to pay, but what are their profits? In the year ended 30-9-60....

Mr. Chairman: Wherefrom he is reading?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: From the memorandum submitted to the Chief Minister of UP and the Prime Minister by some Members of Parliament and MLAs. I can produce the documents, if you like. These are the figures.

In the year ended 30-9-60, their sales were Rs. 3,16,78,918; their Selling Agency Commission was Rs. 17,73,874 and their profits were Rs. 15,66,449. For subsequent years, the

profits are as follows:

Year ended	Profits
30-9-61	.. 20,89,254
30-9-62	.. 14,04,879
30-9-63	.. 19,40,796
30-9-64	.. 20,70,167

These concerns have not paid the dues of the workers for the last 3 months. Even the officers' salaries have not been paid for the last 3 months. Still, even after the recommendation of the Chief Minister, the Central Government has not taken over this concern because he has appointed the brothers of Governors and brothers of Ministers in his own concern. I do not want to name them because they are not here to defend themselves. I would urge upon the Minister to send a team of company law officers—I am sure they are impartial—to investigate into these affairs. When we interfered in these concerns, the net result was he took out a leaflet against us and circulated it to all Members of Parliament telling that we are indulging in goondaism and corrupt practices and we do not want the workers to go and work. Today this all-powerful Central Government are unable to take over this concern. The Metal Corporation of India was taken over by a stroke of the pen. Why can't they take over this concern of a man who has cheated the State Bank and the workers, who has not paid their provident fund and ESI dues, and also the electricity and water dues? It is high time Government immediately took action against this man who has polluted the politics of UP with the help of Mr. C. B. Gupta and has polluted the politics of Kanpur with the help of the District Congress Committee President. I want to sound a note of caution to my Congress brethren. If Shri Ram Rattan Gupta is supported even after this, there is going to be a land-slide defeat for the Congress in the coming elections. He is not fighting against me and I have nothing to fear. I want him to fight against me...

Mr. Chairman: All this is part of the Bill?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: These are facts before the company law department, Sir.

What are the political donations he has paid? I am reading from the balance-sheets:

Year ended	Amount Rs.
30-9-61	2,81,776
30-9-62	47,919
30-9-63	21,145
30-9-64	8,556

He can make political donations and earn profits, but he is not paying wages to the workers.

I support this Bill, but I request the Minister to institute an impartial inquiry into the conduct of this person, so that he may be put behind the bars and the country may be saved from the corrupt politics initiated by him.

Shri G. N. Dixit (Etawah): Sir, my friend, Mr. Banerjee, has talked about things which have no relevance.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: These are facts.

Shri G. N. Dixit: But they should be relevant to the Bill before the House. Howsoever strong the suspicion might be, unless it is tested after due investigation, no assertion can be made whether it is correct or not. I can appreciate whatever is relevant to the Bill; for instance, if Mr. Banerjee makes a plea to the Law Minister that an inquiry should be made, I think every member will endorse him. But where he makes an assertion that something wrong has already been done and wants the House to assume that something wrong has been done about the income-tax matter, which is not relating to the Law Minister, there he goes out of the realm of the present Bill. Rightly or wrongly this country under the leadership of Gandhiji and Nehruji has accepted mixed economy as the economy of this country. We accepted a middle path, we did not accept controlled economy and we also did

not accept free trade like America. Therefore, the position which Shri Banerjee desires is not acceptable to this country or to this House because in the Constitution itself we have guaranteed freedom of trade and business with reasonable restrictions. Therefore, in our mixed economy we have encouraged private sector and public sector.

15 hrs.

Shri Shinkre (Marmagoa): This is equally not relevant to the Bill.

Shri G. N. Dixit: Every word I am uttering, I shall show, is relevant to the present Bill, because it is a question whether there should be some relaxation in the matter of blank transfers or not.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय,
मैं आपकी व्यवस्था चाहता हूँ, सदन में
गणपूति नहीं है।

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member, Shri Dixit, may resume his seat. The Bell is being rung.

There is quorum now. He may continue his speech.

Shri G. N. Dixit: Mr. Chairman, I was making my submission that in this country by virtue of the provisions of article 19 and also our Industrial Policy resolution where we have accepted private sector and public sector both, it is the policy of this country to nourish both the sectors, and when we want to nourish both sectors, obviously, we have to see that the public sector as well as the private sector get all those facilities which will be required for that nourishment, that prosperity, that growth. Therefore, I congratulate the Law Minister for having considered a point which was creating difficulty. I was on the Joint Committee which considered the previous Bill, and even when we were passing that section we were feeling that one time or the other there are bound to be difficulties in the matter of implementing those provisions. Those difficulties

[Shri G. N. Dixit]

have now been realised and the Company Law Administration and the Law Minister have now brought this Bill before us to remove those difficulties. It is just a relaxation that is being done, it is not a Bill which in any way will support blank transfers to be done.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : सभापति महोदय, सदन में गणपूर्ति नहीं है।

सभापति महोदय : इस तरह से मखोल नहीं बनाना चाहिए।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मखोल की बात गलत है, गणपूर्ति नहीं है।

Shri G. N. Dixit: It is not a Bill....

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : सभापति महोदय, मैंने गणपूर्ति का सवाल उठाया है

Mr. Chairman: Please go on.

Shri G. N. Dixit: The principles which were laid down by the Vivian Bose Commission in order to see....

Mr. Chairman: There is no quorum in the House. I have to adjourn the House for half-an-hour.

15.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Thirty-five Minutes Past Fifteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha reassembled at Thirty-five Minutes Past Fifteen of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

Shri G. N. Dixit: Mr. Speaker, I was making my submission that this bill has given a relaxation to the industry, because absolute ban on blank transfers has created a lot of difficulties. Because, blank transfer is nothing but a way or weapon to

the industry to raise immediate money. No individual in this country can carry on business, whatever may be the amount of money in his hand, unless he has got the power to borrow money from all quarters possible. Thus, this blank transfer is a weapon, a source through which money is raised. Therefore, I congratulate the Law Minister for having made a relaxation. I support the Bill.

Shri Narendra Singh Mahida (Anand): On the recommendation of the Vivian Bose Inquiry Commission, section 108 of the Companies Act relating to transfer of shares and debentures was amended by the Companies (Amendment) Act of 1965. The object of that amendment was to regulate and control the currency of blank transfer of shares. For this purpose, certain sub-sections were inserted in section 108. Soon after the amended provisions were brought into force on 1st April 1966 their working disclosed a number of practical difficulties and doubts were also expressed as to the intentions underlying these provisions. The stock exchanges which have been recognised under the Companies Act raised objections, along with some others, that the enforcement of these provisions would result in complete prohibition of blank transfers, even though the intention was to regulate and control the currency of blank transfers. The other day when another amendment to the Companies Act was being discussed, I referred to this Bill.

It is a common practice for many shareholders and stock exchanges to have blank transfers, not for manipulating finances but for matter of convenience. One buys shares and, soon after, when the price of those shares starts rising one would like to sell them back. Therefore, it can very easily be done by merely putting one's signature, without mentioning the name of the buyer or seller. I do not think it is the intention of the Bill to create difficult-

ies to those honest people. This measure is primarily intended to check irregularities whereby black money come into circulation.

It was pointed out that there would be serious practical difficulty if the register of the members of the Company were closed within a short time after the presentation of the instrument of transfer in the prescribed authority. There was considerable force in the representations made by various stock exchanges and others and, therefore, it was urgently necessary to clarify the intention underlining these provisions, before the expiry of the transitional period, that is, between 1-4-1966 and 30-9-1966. In order to avoid needless hardship and unintended deadlock in the working of the stock exchange and capital market, an Ordinance was passed by the President, and to replace this Ordinance a Bill is being brought before the House. It was, therefore, felt that an immediate clarification was necessary regarding the date of commencement for the purpose of this sub-section. It was also necessary urgently to clarify the position, as also to validate the blank transfers effected during the transitional period on forms other than the prescribed form.

Now there is some vagueness about the prescribed form, because the term "prescribed form" is yet to be decided in future. So, on the whole, the Bill is a welcome measure, and the Central Government will have to deal with the details of rules. I am sure the hon. Minister will attend to these details of rules. With these words, I commend the Bill for the acceptance of the House.

Shri Shinkre: Mr. Speaker, although I support the Bill for being some improvement on the existing situation, and also for obviating some of the difficulties which have been pointed out after the experience that we gathered from the operation of the Act, as amended, I cannot help

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expressing some misgiving because, irrespective of the control which Government might be exercising on the transfer of shares of public limited companies, I am very much doubtful whether that by itself would be enough to curb the malpractices and corrupt behaviour by these companies. My doubt starts from doubting the *bona fide*, up to a certain extent, of the administration as to whether they really want to ensure the establishment of completely pure and above suspicion public limited companies, or they merely want to introduce some piece-meal measures, whereby they might give some satisfaction to the critics on the one side and, simultaneously, leave the public limited companies enough margin of chances and opportunity to indulge in their usual practices. Because, I do not think it is really difficult to introduce such amendments in the company law that will effectively curb such malpractices.

Even at random some suggestions could be made to the Law Minister so that he might consider them for inclusion at the time when he brings the next amendment to the company law. The amendments to the company law should be brought forward *in toto* rather than piece-meal. One of the suggestions would be to impose some sort of restriction on money invested by shareholders, other than company directors in both new and old companies. Some measures should be introduced whereby the Government can compel both old and new companies to give a return equivalent to the prevalent bank rate to the ordinary shareholders right from the time of the subscription. This would go a long way to prevent or curb some of the malpractices.

After all, what is the aim and purpose of these malpractices? It is only to get this money from the poor shareholders in the larger public and misuse it at their free will. So, if

[Shri Shinkre]

you introduce some legal or statutory measure whereby you force the public limited companies to launch shares to the public only against a definite and certain return as from the date of subscription, you will definitely have ensured some success in this regard.

I do not think the hon. Law Minister also does not know that these big business and industry tycoons of the country freely indulge in launching and floating new companies without any real capital of their own with the simple hope of attracting capital from the larger public of the country on the strength of their big names in the industry and commerce of the country. It is not any news that there are companies which had been floated 10, 15 or 20 years ago and which up till now have not paid a single paisa by way of return to the shareholders. All their needs are very comfortably managed. Everything is being done by the directors and managers of the company. Crores and crores of rupees are being spent by them under one pretext or the other, but the poor shareholder does not get any return because all the time these people are successful in showing that the company actually did not make any profit.

The other suggestion that also I would like to offer at random to the hon. Law Minister and which he should also examine although it does not strictly belong to his portfolio, is the immediate introduction of expenditure tax. As I stated on an earlier occasion, this expenditure tax should be reasonably high and should place before these big companies and the magnates these alternatives—either develop the habit of sound savings in the company or run the risk of paying expenditure tax on whatever monies belonging to the public they freely squander.

Sir, you know very well that in the report of the Monopolies Commission and the other report that was given to us more or less at the same time,

there is not a single individual in this country who, according to official statistics, has an earned income of even Rs. 5 lakhs. Where does all this money in crores of rupees which we see being spent and squandered every day by these big tycoons come from? I would not be disclosing any secret if I say to you that these people spend the money in such a manner that even the most rash spendthrift would think twice before doing. This is the way they are spending money.

Last season I paid a visit to Mussoorie. I went to a very costly hotel where every suite would cost you something like Rs. 125 a day for a couple and I found that something like 13 or 14 suites had been taken for the entire season by one textile magnate under three, four or five different names, but one could easily find out that all the names belonged to the same magnate or to the same textile firm. Only the lodging charges of these 13 or 14 suites for a season in that hotel for that firm would easily amount to something like Rs. 2 lakhs.

Where does this money come from? You think that it comes from their pockets. No, it usually comes from the millions and millions of poor shareholders spread over the country who are attracted by the big and attractive names of the big guns of business and industry and who think that their money would give them a better or at least a reasonable return than the commercial banks give.

I think, if these two things are duly taken into consideration by the Law Minister, much better results would have been achieved than whatever result he might be anticipating through a legislation like this, although I support it as I said in the beginning.

Shri G. S. Pathak: Sir, I thank hon. Members who have supported this Bill, and all the hon. Members, who

have spoken, have supported it; only one hon. Member has opposed it.

Blank transfers have been in vogue for a very long time in this country. Business in blank transfers has been engaged in both by those who enter into the transactions honestly with a view to acquiring money and satisfying their needs quickly and also by those who obtain unfair advantages by entering into these transactions.

This matter was fully considered by the Vivian Bose Commission and the Vivian Bose Commission arrived at the conclusion that there should be a limited restriction on the currency of these transfers. It did not recommend that there should be abolition of blank transfers because abolition would have resulted in affecting credit facilities and in seriously affecting the capital market. If restrictions further than those which are imposed under this Bill are put upon blank transfers, the liquidity and negotiability of blank transfers will be seriously affected.

I would recall to the Members of this House what the Vivian Bose Commission said. They recommended that restrictions should be imposed relating to the period of currency of blank transfers by making statutory provision with a view to permitting shares being held on blank transfers only for a limited period. This period, which we have fixed in this Bill, is only two months. After two months fresh transactions might be entered into but the negotiability on blank transfer of the original transaction will cease.

This is the best that could be done under the circumstances. The suggestions that have been made here deserve the consideration of Government and I am sure we will consider them at the proper time. The Companies Act is one of those Acts which having regard to the nature of the

legislation has been amended from time to time both here and in the United Kingdom.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Companies Act, 1956, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1—(Short title).

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 3,—

for "Companies (Amendment) Act, 1966" substitute—

"Companies (Second Amendment) Act, 1966" (1).

(Shri G. S. Pathak)

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

Shri G. S. Pathak: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

15.55 hrs.

EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, be taken into consideration."

The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 provides for certain benefits to employees in case of Sickness, Maternity and Employment Injury, and for certain other matters in relation thereto. The Act, in the first instance, applies to perennial factories using power and in which 20 or more persons are working. It can, however, be extended to any other establishment or class of establishments.

The scheme is financed mainly by contributions from employers and employees. The rates of contribution are laid down in Schedule I to the Act. However, before the actual implementation of the Scheme, it was found that phased implementation would lead to competitive handicap for industries situated in areas of proposed implementation of the Scheme as against those in non-implemented areas. With a view to remove this handicap, the Act was amended in 1951 and in lieu of the employer's contribution in Schedule I to the Act, a provision was made for levy of Employers' Special Contribution on employers all over the country at rates to be determined by the Central Government from time to time subject to a maximum of 5 per cent of the total wage bill.

15.56 hrs.

[SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH in the Chair]

The rates of employers' special contribution now in force are:—

- (i) implemented areas ... 2½% of the total wage bill.
- (ii) non-implemented areas ... 1% of the wage bill.

The scheme is administered by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation which consists of 2 elected members of the Parliament, the representatives of Central and State Governments, employers, employees and medical profession. A Standing Committee constituted from amongst the members of the Corporation acts as executive body for the administration of the Scheme. A Medical Benefit Council including representatives of the medical profession has been set up to advise the Corporation on medical questions. For the day-to-day administration of the Scheme, State-wise Regional Offices have been set up. Under each Regional Office, several Local Offices are established to receive claims of insured persons and pay Cash Benefits to them, in addition to looking after the work of registration etc. On the Medical side, Employees' State Insurance Dispensaries have been set up in various centres all over the country. In Panel Areas like Bombay and Calcutta, the Panel Doctors, who are registered with the Scheme, provide the necessary medical care to the beneficiaries.

While Cash Benefits under the Scheme are administered by the Corporation directly, the provision of medical care is the responsibility of the State Governments, except in the Union Territory of Delhi, where the administration of medical care has been taken over by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation since 1st April, 1962. The expenditure on medical care is, however, shared between State Governments and the Employees' State Insurance Corporation. The State Governments bear 1/3rd of the cost of medical care in an area where medical benefit has been extended to the families of the employees and 1/4th in the other areas.

Out of a total coverable strength of industrial employees of about 38 lakhs in the country, about 31 lakh employees have so far been covered till 30th September, 1966 under the

Scheme. Medical Benefit has been extended to the families of insured persons also in most areas.

16.00 hrs.

The Scheme has been in operation since 1952. In the light of the experience gained during this period, it is proposed to amend the Act with a view to making the administration of the Scheme simpler and to eliminate complicated formalities for payment of contributions and grant of benefits. The working of the Scheme has also been reviewed by a high level tripartite Committee which has submitted its Report. The Committee's recommendations which are at present under examination in consultation with the interests concerned, are based on the assumption that the amendments as proposed in the Bill and as already agreed to by the parties, will be carried out. It is, therefore, not necessary to wait for decisions on the Review Committee's recommendations. The important amendments proposed in the Bill are as follows:—

(1) The existing wage-limit for coverage of employees is being raised from Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 per month with a view to securing benefits of the Insurance Scheme for a larger section of industrial employees.

(2) The existing definition of the term "employee" is being amended so as to cover those engaged in work connected with the administration of factory or its departments, purchase of raw materials, distribution or sale etc. of the products of the factory.

(3) The definition of the term "family" is being enlarged to include dependent parents of female insured persons. At present dependent parents of only male insured persons are included in this definition.

(4) The number of representatives of Parliament of the Employees' State

Insurance Corporation is being raised from 2 to 3 with a view to including 2 members from the Lok Sabha and one from the Rajya Sabha.

(5) The exemption limit for employees' contribution is being raised from the present below rupee one to below Rs. 1.50 p. per day with a view to providing relief to low-paid employees.

(6) A new Section is being inserted to enable the Corporation in certain cases to make assessment of the contributions due on the basis of such information as is available to it regarding number of persons employed, their wages, etc.

(7) A new provision is being made to empower the Corporation to recover any contribution payable under this Act, that is, both Employers' Contribution as well as employees' contribution as arrears of land revenue. At present, Section 73D provides for recovery of Employers' Special Contribution only as arrears of land revenue. However, there is no corresponding provision regarding recovery of Employees' Contribution as arrears of land revenue. The Employers' Contribution has, therefore, to be recovered under Section 75 which takes time. It is, therefore, necessary to ensure that recoveries of dues to the Employees' State Insurance Fund through which all the benefits under the Scheme are financed are made as speedily as possible.

(8) Provision for the grant of Funeral Benefit, not exceeding Rs. 100 on the death of insured person is being made for the first time. This benefit is supported by the I.L.O.

(9) Qualifying conditions with regard to eligibility to Sickness Benefit are being simplified. The present dual qualifying condition *vide* Section 47 of the Act not only complicate actual working but is administratively costly without any significant advantage. Moreover, an insured person finds it difficult to follow the condition. The

[Shri Shah Nawaz Khan]

revised qualifying condition would be the payment of 13 weeks contribution in a contribution period of 26 weeks.

(10) As in case of Sickness Benefit, the qualifying conditions for Maternity Benefit are also being simplified on similar lines. Besides the additional conditions of payment of at least one contribution between 35 and 40 weeks before the week in which the confinement takes place or in which notice of pregnancy is given is being dropped because this condition causes hardship in certain cases.

(11) The scope of maternity benefit relief is being enlarged so as to provide for the additional benefits on the lines of the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961.

(12) The calculation of average daily wage for purposes of determining the weekly rate of contribution is being simplified.

(13) A standard rate of Sickness Benefit is being fixed corresponding to each wage-group. Calculation of the rate of benefit in an individual case would thus be no longer necessary in the local offices of the Corporation. An additional advantage would be that the employees would now know the rate of benefit to which they would be entitled from the rate at which contributions are paid in respect of them or even from the rate of wages they draw.

(14) The rate of Disablement and Dependents' Benefits is being increased by 25 per cent over and above the Sickness Benefit Rate. Moreover, even the method of calculation of the rate for these benefits is being simplified by providing that the full rate of Employment Injury Benefits will be equal to 25 per cent more than the "Standard Benefit Rate" applicable to Sickness Benefit.

(15) The existing provision relating to the payment of Dependents' Benefit to the children upto 15 years of age, except when they are receiving education to the satisfaction of

the Corporation, is being liberalised by providing that the benefit would be available to children upto the age of 18 years and also beyond that age in case of infirm children.

Certain minor and formal amendments to the Act have also been proposed in the Bill. The notes on clauses explain in detail the important provisions of the Bill.

Sir, I move.

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, be taken into consideration."

The Minister has tabled certain amendments which have been circulated; they will be taken up later. Now, I call upon Mr. Banerjee to speak.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): I thank the hon. Deputy Minister for bringing this piece of legislation, a Bill further to amend the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948.

I am happy that certain very good provisions have been included in this Amendment Bill. The wage limit for coverage of employees is being raised from Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 per month in order to secure the benefit of the scheme for a larger number of employees; I welcome this. I also welcome the definition of 'family'; it has now been broadened. What was the definition of 'family' previously in the British regime? It has only wife and legitimate children. Now it has been broadened. Now when we read the definition of 'family', we find that it includes the dependent members of the insurer; it includes widowed mother, widowed sister and even, in certain cases, the other members of the family. It is really heartening.

A provision for the grant of funeral benefit not exceeding Rs. 100 has also been made for the benefit of in-

sured persons. I do not know whether the hon. Minister has attended any funeral ceremony. At the present cost of living, under the Congress rule, under the Congress regime, with Rs. 100 you cannot possibly burn a dead body. Rs. 100 may be a token gift or for encouraging a worker to die and get Rs. 100 for his family. A sum of Rs. 100 is too inadequate for any funeral benefit. I would only request the hon. Deputy Minister to kindly consider this: in a Hindu society for performing the minimum ceremonies done after the death of a person, at least Rs. 200 to Rs. 250 would be required. We have been giving the workers loans from the welfare fund and the union fund and I am sure that it cannot be less than Rs. 200 to Rs. 250.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee (Burdwan): The sum of Rs. 100 is the maximum.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Rs. 100 is the maximum. The employers will hardly pay Rs. 30; I can assure you this much. There is also a scheme for maternity benefit. Having welcomed certain aspects and certain provisions of this Bill, may I ask the hon. Deputy Minister to clarify to this House whether the huge arrears have been recovered from the employers. In Kanpur alone, some of the employers have not paid their share to E.S.I. I have mentioned just before an hour that a notorious industrialist of Kanpur, Mr. Ram Rattan Gupta, owner of Lakshmi Cotton Mills, has not paid to the tune of Rs. 4½ lakhs—Rs. 4,52,000—to the E.S.I. with the result that no employee, no worker who is employed in Lakshmi Rattan Cotton Mills—it employs more than 5,000 employees—gets any benefit out of this E.S.I.; they do not get this benefit because the employer has not deposited his share. I would like to know whether these employers have been prosecuted or whether prosecutions are going to be launched against these employers for violating various provisions of this Act. A Committee

was appointed for further improvement of the working of the E.S.I. Corporation with Mr. Pattabhiraman—if I am not wrong—presently Minister in the Ministry of Law, as its Chairman. They have also suggested certain things and I know that when this was under the Social Security Department and Mr. Jaganatha Rao was one of the Ministers, he visited Kanpur and during his visit he asked the E.S.I. Corporation people to start prosecution against certain employers for non-payment of dues. I would like to know what has happened to that.

When we talk of the E.S.I. Corporation, I am also pained to note the cold and callous attitude of some of the doctors towards the patients. In some places the entire medical benefit has been reduced to this: the doctor certifies a man fit when he is unfit and unfit when he is fit, this is nothing but granting certificates for getting leave. For their improvement, I suggest that qualified doctors should be brought. Whether it is panel or otherwise, it is a matter for the Union to take a decision. But surely I would request you to consider this.

There is another point. Who are the persons who are running this Corporation? What about those employees? When there was hunger strike going on in the country by almost all the employees of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, a solemn assurance was given by the hon. Deputy Minister, Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan—he is known for his integrity, boldness and firmness—that their demands would be considered with utmost sympathy. What happened to that assurance? What is going to be the fate of those employees who went on a token hunger strike; there was a mass hunger strike. Unless their demands are fulfilled, unless they are taken out of the growing discontent, how can they possibly serve the Corporation?

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

With these words, I would request the hon. Minister to throw some light on the three points that I have made, namely firstly whether adequate steps have been taken, legal or otherwise, to recover the huge amounts due from the employers at Kanpur and other places, secondly whether the demands put forward by the employees are being conceded and if not, the reasons for the same, and thirdly whether the death benefit or the funeral benefit will be increased from Rs. 100 to a minimum of Rs. 250, because otherwise, it would be impossible for the employee's family to manage and the employer may just give only Rs. 15 or Rs. 20 or Rs. 30 and there will be no check on that.

Shri K. N. Pande (Hata): I am very happy that this Bill has been brought forward because it seeks to remove many of the difficulties in the implementation of the Act. For instance, formerly it used to cover people who were drawing a salary of only up to Rs. 400, but now it is going to cover also those who are getting Rs. 500. This should have been done in the beginning itself, but somehow that was not done. Anyhow, I am happy that it has been done now.

The revision of the definition of the term 'family' is also a very happy feature.

There was one thing which gave me great pleasure at first sight, but when I read the clause, really it gave me disappointment. I do not know whether the benefit of the clause is going to be derived by the employees for whom it is intended. For instance, this scheme was brought forward to help the insured workers. Really, the workers are getting help in the shape of medical benefit. The difficulty is that the corporation is the agency to collect the subscription from the employees as well as from the employers, but the medical facilities are provided by the State Governments, and there have been a lot of complaints from every quarter that this facility is not properly being given to the employees. Therefore, a

suggestion was made that the corporation itself should take over the function to giving medical benefit to the workers. Since the corporation is the collecting agency, the corporation is morally responsible for providing the medical benefits. But under the clause as it stands in this Bill, the administration of medical benefit may be taken over by the corporation in consultation with the State Government. The difficulty will arise this way namely that no State Government will be prepared to let this function go over to the corporation, because even if they do not do anything and even if there is room for complaint, they do not want to leave this function. How the corporation will get over this problem is a matter which is for the consideration of the House.

When I read the Statement of Objects and Reasons, I thought that this Bill was going to cover seasonal industries also so that the workers working in the seasonal factories also would be benefited by this amending Bill. But the condition imposed is that this Bill will apply to those seasonal factories which work for seven months. I can give the example of a sugar factory run by the State Government of Mysore. This factory works for eight months. It used to have two seasons. For the last two years, because of failure of rain, this factory has not been able to run. So, this kind of thing may be true in some cases and may not be true in other cases. So, why should a period be prescribed at all? Why should we not mention word seasonal only. In application of the amending clause 2 covering seasonal factories I want to suggest that all seasonal factories should be covered without specifying any period for which they should work in a year? Under the provision as it stands, only the tea industry may be covered. But what about the sugar factory which is a seasonal factory? It employs more than two lakhs of people. Now, the rate of contribution to the provident fund is also

8 per cent, and so it is not in any way an industry which makes less profits than other industries.

Therefore, my suggestion is that Government should consider the question of bringing forward an amendment to this clause so that there may be no period prescribed for a seasonal factory and any factory which may run for four months or five months or seven months may also be covered. If you see the economics of the factories, I am sure you will find that they are in a position to stand on their own. So, if the present provision in the Bill is amended, it will cover all the seasonal industries and not merely the tea industry only. Perhaps, a time may come in the tea industry also where because of some difficulty the work of packing and blending etc. may continue only for about seven months or less. What will happen then? Once you apply a scheme you cannot withdraw it. This provision would become superfluous in such a case and instead of giving any benefit it may actually cause difficulty in the implementation of the Act.

My next point is in regard to the funeral benefits to be given to the employees. For the funeral of the employees who die, the corporation will be giving Rs. 100. This money is not going to come from the employers, but it is going to come from the corporation's funds and it would come from out of the contribution made by the employees also. Where there was nothing, now Rs. 100 would be given and I think that that would be sufficient. It is a happy thing that this provision has been made here and I do not think that there should be any objection to it.

There is one other happy feature in this Bill, which other Members were perhaps shy to mention, and that is that provision has been made in this Bill whereby even illegitimate children will be covered. In Delhi,

Bombay and other industrial centres, the workers who used to work in the factory died leaving behind their widows. The widows, being workmen themselves, were engaged somewhere and they got children. Those children were not covered by the scheme and they were not entitled to get any benefit from this scheme. Now, the law has taken care of such children also. There is a large number of such children. I must thank the Ministry for having made an amendment in this Bill so that those poor children also would be able to derive the benefits of this scheme.

There is one other thing that I want to mention. Although this scheme has come on the pattern of that in the Western countries, there is always complaint regarding giving leave etc. That is not a happy thing in regard to the functioning of the scheme. Sometimes, the employees get certificates of sickness by giving some money and then get leave. That may be helpful to them but that is not in the interests of the country. I think the doctors should also behave in such a way that there will be no complaints of this nature. A person should be granted a sickness certificate for leave only when he is really sick. Those who pretend to be sick should not be given such certificates, because not merely does such a thing affect the production in the country, but it also creates a bad habits in the society, and I do not know where we shall go after some time, if these things were to continue.

I hope the suggestions I have made on some of these points will be taken into consideration by the Ministry and they will try to remove the defects I have pointed out. With these words, I think the Ministry for having brought forward this amending Bill.

Shri Dinen Bhattacharya (Serampore): Mr. Chairman, the amendments that have been brought forward here are, I think, on the basis

[Shri Dinen Bhattacharya]

of the recommendations of the Review Committee set up for the purpose of going into the working of the ESI scheme. At the outset, I may state that although there are certain provisions which will improve the situation, the situation as it prevails today will not be much improved by these amendments.

From my experience in my State of West Bengal, I can say that this ESI Scheme is not so much favoured by the workers as a whole; they consider it as a burden on their income.

16.27 hrs.

[SHRI SHAM LAL SARAF in the Chair]

First of all, the minimum benefit that a worker or insured person expects from this scheme is that he will get supplies of medicine in case of his sickness. I would ask the hon. Minister to go round the industrial belts in Calcutta. He will find that the insured persons have to move like a shuttlecock from this chemist shop to that chemist shop to get a particular medicine. The schedule or list of medicines given to the panel doctors is not reviewed. I have talked with the doctors who work in this panel. They have said that they cannot treat the patients as per their own choice. They have to select medicines or prescribe medicines as per the detailed list given by the Corporation. This list is not sufficient.

Then after getting a prescription from a doctor, he won't get medicines. When I asked a chemist why he does not keep all the stocks required, he said, that he does not get payment of his bills. So he cannot keep these medicines for ready supply.

Another complaint—I have referred to it several times here—is that two standards of medicines are there in the chemist shops, one for those who purchase it with their own money and another for these insured persons. This is an open secret that two types of the same medicine

are kept. The reason for that is very well known to the authorities. In spite of the fact that locally we raised this matter with the authorities in Calcutta, nothing has been done up till now to rectify the matter.

Then there is another thing. Take the question of consultation with specialists, for example. There are certain types of diseases which require consultation with specialists either for diagnosis or for regular treatment. I have heard that there is an arrangement whereby so many specialists are there in the list, but in reality, the workers do not get the help of the specialists when necessary. If an insured person requires blood test, he will have to wait for several days to get himself referred to the concerned specialist; then his blood will be taken for examination and it will take at least 15 days to get the results of the test, I know this from my own experience. This is not only with regard to blood test, but in respect of x-ray or any other type of special treatment. This type of thing prevails in West Bengal.

Then about hospitals. Assurances were given that sufficient hospital accommodation will be there for the hospitalisation of these insured persons, but up till now the arrangement that is there is too meagre. Even in my own constituency of Serampore where there is a hospital, I know that the number of doctors, the number of nurses and the other appliances necessary for the proper functioning of a hospital are not there with the result that the patients or insured persons who are admitted do not get the full benefit.

Then there is another point. A worker who lives in an industrial town or place just near a factory may have his own place of residence far away from the factory. If I am an insured person registered with a panel doctor near the factory, I get treatment there. But my family resides in a far-away place in a

[Shri Dinen Bhattacharya]

Again, this amendment will not change the situation. At least in my place I can say that the situation is very, very critical, and the workers are too much agitated over the mal-administration and whimsical functioning of this Corporation, beginning from medicinal benefit to hospital benefit and also payment of their dues from the Corporation. So, I request the Minister to seriously think over the matter, so that the situation may not take serious turn by continuation of the present practice that is going on throughout the country.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya (Raiganj): I have great satisfaction in supporting this Bill which has been brought by the Ministry in the interests of the poor workers. As the hon. Minister has said, the purpose of the Bill has been explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, and also in the explanation and notes on clauses.

The hon. Member who spoke just now referred to some of the difficulties of insured persons in the matter of medical benefits. I feel I should agree with some of the points that he made. In fact, I have seen that insured persons do not get proper service or sufficient service or as much service as they should get under the present arrangements under the Act.

In Calcutta, the Corporation took up a whole hospital—the Calcutta Medical School Hospital—from the authorities, but I do not think it has been brought to working order up till now. The Statement of Objects and Reasons mentions:

“Provision for the taking over by the Employees’ State Insurance Corporation of the administration of the medical benefit from State Governments is being made.”

At least in every State capital there should be a hospital completely under the management and control of the Corporation where the employees requiring medical help and medical

benefit and hospitalisation, could go. That would be the most helpful arrangement for the employees themselves. The present arrangement is that in each civil hospital the Corporation, through the State Government, makes certain reservations and a certain provision for beds for the employees. Difficulties arise when in such places the services of specialists are not available for the particular disease which an employee may be suffering from. I also know that in some of them the employees get, from the doctors specially appointed for this purpose, a general service only and general sort of medicines. If they require any special medicines or special help, they are told that they have got to make separate payment for that. I have known of some cases when employees told me that for special medicines they were advised that they must procure them and give them to the doctor, the doctors themselves do not provide them. This is a difficulty which has come to my notice, and some of the employees have informed me about this difficulty from which they suffer. I request the hon. Minister to go into this.

This arrangement is proposed in the Bill under clause 28:

“...the State Government shall share the cost of such medical benefit in such proportion as may be agreed upon between the State Government and the Corporation.”

I believe there will be no difficulty coming up from the State Governments in the matter of sharing such costs, and that the Corporation will be able to persuade the different State Governments to come over to its view, so that as much perfect provision may be made for the employees as possible. Most of the employees who come under this scheme are poor. Of course I find a provision here which raises the wage limit from Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 per month. Persons having

higher wages are in a position to secure the services of specialists for themselves if they find that they are not getting or they find that there is some difficulty in getting specialists but the poor employees getting a low salary in our country have to depend completely on this scheme. Therefore, they require particular attention from the administrators so that the requirements of these poor people are met sufficiently and entirely in all cases.

I might say one word about the term 'family' which is being amended to include dependent parents of a female insured person. Dependent parents of a male insured person are already included.

My friend Shri Kashinath Pande made some reference to situations in life in Bombay and somehow those references disclosed a state of things which did not leave a good taste in the mouth. If it becomes a fact that there are widows who without finding any other support come to be mothers, those children have got to be protected. This requires attention not only by the ESI authorities but also social workers. According to me, it is more a social problem than an economic problem or an employment problem and it should be tackled from the social side by persons who do social welfare work. We have such bodies under the Central and the State Governments. Those conditions should be tackled in such a way that the situation that compels the inclusion of illegitimacy in a case like this may be tackled at the root so that it may not exist at all; it requires the attention of persons who are concerned with the individual good, the social good and the moral good, who want to see the social atmosphere to be as clean as possible and as healthy as possible.

Another point was that it should be extended to persons not only in tea or coffee factories but also to other seasonal occupations and seasonal work because these workers will remain uncovered even after this amendment comes into operation. I

request the hon. Minister to take into consideration this particular phase in the life of the workers which requires to be tackled and provided for.

There are other provisions in this Bill and most of them will depend for their effective use upon the attention and care that the administration bestows on them. The hon. Minister should keep the administration conscious of its responsibilities towards the workers particularly the poorer ones so that they may not be in the need of running hither and thither when there is any difficulty. This Bill was contemplated to provide such conditions of service for them in which they might feel secure and confident that there is some arrangement for looking after them, that there is some agency to care for them. It is the responsibility of the State and of society and this Bill is a worthy attempt to meet that responsibility, I would only urge that that responsibility be discharged well and administrators responsible to discharge that duty be made to function in a way that the workers and other persons who are covered by this Bill and who are to get the advantage of these provisions get their benefits, sufficiently, fully and to the utmost that can be provided for them. I should thank the hon. Minister for having brought this Bill and for having provided for the workers as much as he could. If it is found in the operation of this Bill that it has left anything not covered or if there is any defect anywhere, I believe he will not hesitate to come to this House with another amendment with the experience of the working of this Bill so that Parliament may be doing its duty and discharge its responsibility to the people of this country under a democratic Constitution.

Shri Narendra Singh Mahida (Anand): Mr. Chairman, every advanced country in the world thinks of its citizens and brings welfare measures for farmers or workers. This is a Bill which is intended for the

[Shri Narendra Singh Mahida]

welfare of employees. Therefore, the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, applies to a number of Central Government undertakings. Some of the amendments proposed in the Bill will have the effect of increasing the liability of the employees (including Central Government) for payment of contributions. As a country advances, as I have said earlier we have to take care of our workers in respect of their health, in respect of their families, because, if the health of a worker is good, he can put in more work, he can work only if he is happy with his family. Education is given to his children. There is provision for medical help. They are provided with nourishing food, housing and other welfare facilities. This measure is a liability in respect of the Government and I am glad that the Government is thinking in terms of providing them with increased emoluments and facilities by way of medical assistance and so on.

I shall now refer to the clauses before coming to other points. In clause 3 of the Bill, they have sought the insertion of a new section, section 2A which reads as follows:

"Every factory or establishment to which this Act applies shall be registered within such time and in such manner as may be specified in the regulations made in this behalf."

This will cover most of the factories and establishments and they will have to do all that is intended by the Government in respect of the welfare of the workers. Then in clause 6 of the Bill, section 7 of the principal Act is sought to be substituted by a new section which reads as follows:

"All orders and decisions of the Corporation shall be authenticated by the signature of the Director General of the Corporation and all other instruments issued by the Corporation shall be authenticated by the signature of the Director General or such other officer of the Corporation as may

be authorised by him."

This section is for authentication of orders, decisions etc. This is a welcome measure whereby there will be no doubt in the minds of the people whether the authentication is there or not.

Then there is another important amendment, and that is, clause 19 of the Bill which seeks to substitute section 47 of the principal Act by a new section, which reads as under:—

"A person shall be qualified to claim sickness benefit for sickness occurring during any benefit period, if during the corresponding contribution period, weekly contributions in respect of him were payable for not less than thirteen weeks."

Even while a person is engaged in work if he falls ill, he is entitled to benefits. That is also a very welcome measure.

There is another measure in clause 23, and this is in relation to section 51 of the principal Act.

It is about disablement benefits: It says:

"(a) a person who sustains temporary disablement for less than three days (excluding the day of accident) shall be entitled to periodical payment for the period of such disablement in accordance with the provisions of the First Schedule;"

So in various measures we are providing benefits for the workers, not only when they fall ill but that they should receive their wages in fulfilment of their obligation to maintain their families, apart from their receiving medical help.

Then in clause 51A, it has been provided as under:—

"For the purposes of this Act, an accident arising in the course of an insured person's employment shall be presumed, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, also

