

Union. No comments are called for on the part of the Government of India. However, Government welcomes the Pakistan President's statement that he is prepared to take steps to help establish peaceful condition in the Sub-continent and that he attaches importance to cessation of hostile propaganda against India.

**Refusal for use of own Plane to U.S
Ambassador**

2124. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the American Ambassador has been refused use of his own plane within the country;

(b) how many times such use was allowed during last three years, and

(c) the reason for grant of such permission ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH). (a) and (c). Government's permission is mandatory for each flight. Such permission has been granted or withheld by Government after taking into account factors relevant to each particular flight.

(b) Thirty-five times

**Setting up Naval Bases in Ceylon by
Foreign Powers**

2125. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to State :

(a) whether certain foreign powers are trying to set up naval bases in Ceylon; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) The Government has no information on the subject.

(b) Does not arise.

12 hr.

**RE : CALLING ATTENTION NOTICES
(Query)**

MR. SPEAKER : Shri D. K. Panda.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Sir, we have been giving call attention notices on the terrible bombing in Viet-Nam.

MR. SPEAKER : Not now Any time you like, you get up ?

SHRI D. K. PANDA

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**REPORTED UNEARTHING OF FORGED POSTAL
STAMP RACKET**

SHRI D. K. PANDA (Bhanjanagar) Sir, I call the attention of the hon. Minister of Communications to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon .

"Reported unearthing of forged postal stamps racket and seizure of a large quantity of postal stamps "

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA) : On 22-3-72 a member of the public brought six sheets of 20-paise (Ghat series issued on 16-10-67) forged postage stamps to me. Senior Officers of the P & T Directorate were directed by me to commence immediate investigations as the stamps produced were forged.

The vigilance squad of the P & T Directorate assisted by the police arrested 2 postal officials of Anzari Road Post Office (Delhi) on 30-3-72 and on the same

furnished by them 2 members of the gang were arrested at Sonapat, late in the night on the same day. The press complete with photographic equipment and finished and unfinished forged postage stamps of the approximate value of Rs 2 lakhs was also seized in the early hours of 31-3-72 in Radhey Puri, Shahdara, Delhi-51.

From the records seized in the office as well as the press of the said gang, it came to light that agents had been appointed by the gang in various States in the country for sale of these forged stamps. Immediate action was therefore taken for apprehension of these agents and so far 22 persons have been taken into custody, both in Delhi and rest of the country, which includes 5 postal officials also. Stock of forged postage stamps of 20-paise series has also been seized from these agents at various places.

From investigations made, it has come to light that only 20-paise postage stamps were being forged and forging of other denomination postage stamps has not come to light so far. Raids and searches are still continuing and it is expected that it will result in unfolding this racket in full.

Meanwhile instructions have also been issued to all the post offices in the country giving out distinctive features of genuine and forged stamps along with general instructions to keep a vigilant eye in their respective fields. A press note has also been issued for guidance of the public.

SHRI D.K. PANDA : From the statement it is clear that the hon. Minister came to know of this racket only on 22-3-1972 and that too because some member of the public brought six sheets of 20 paise forged postage stamps, which led to the discovery of the industry which is manufacturing these forged stamps.

But I would draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the debate which took place in the Rajya Sabha in April, 1970. Since then it has been brought to the

notice of the Government that this forged stamps problem has been rampant throughout the country. The Members who participated in that debate demanded certain measures to be taken by the Government. In this House also, on 15-3-1972, in reply to a question by Shri Chintamani Panigrahi, the hon. Minister said that there was a well-knit organisation, and there were underground activities throughout the country. His words were : "unauthorised postal system running parallel to the regular system of post offices in the country". That means, this forged stamps problem has been there for long and the hon. Minister and the Government were fully aware of the underground activities of certain business agencies. The names of those business agencies were given in the House by the hon. Minister. There are seven business houses involved.

In the light of that, it is really a sorry state of affairs to find that the statement displays such a callous attitude towards the whole problem, because, as far as the measures are concerned, it is confined only to some instructions issued to the post offices regarding the distinction between the genuine and forged stamps.

The problem has already assumed menacing proportions, particularly in view of the fact that there is black money in the country, and the most powerful Minister, Mr. Chavan, has been telling us that this black money is more powerful than the Government machinery itself. In the railways also the same thing is going on. There is black money in gold. Then about coins, the CBI is already investigating into the matter. At this rate, who knows that passes of Members of Parliament may be forged and persons might be travelling as MPs? Who knows, there may be another Parliament and there may be another Speaker !

MR. SPEAKER : I do not think anybody will mistake any other Panda for him.

SHRI D.K. PANDA : So, I only put it to the hon. Minister : why this helpless attitude towards this problem, why this Hamlet-like attitude, to do or not to do? Let there be a strong determination to investigate into the matter and to punish the seven houses already involved and into this second case. Unless severe punishment is meted out to them, it is impossible to put an end to this affair. I want to know whether lakhs of forged postcards were found in circulation as early as 1970 and whether at that time, the crime branch had indicated that once you give it to private presses to print postcards and inland letters, it is only another step for them to forge the stamps ? If so, how many times since then have the post office authorities assigned the job of printing postcards and inland letters to private presses, what was the volume of those orders and what are the names of the private presses who had been assigned this job. (b) I want to know whether in view of Government's awareness of the unauthorised postal system running parallel to the regular system of post offices, run by private agencies, Government have taken any steps so far to tackle this menacing problem effectively. (c) In view of all this, when it is spreading like cancer and is going to paralyse the entire governmental machinery, under such circumstances, may I know whether Government is going to order a CBI probe into this menacing problem? May I know whether the local police are involved or not, which can be unearthed through such a CBI probe?

SHRI H.N. BAHUGUNA : While I am grateful to the hon. member for criticising the Government on many points, I am afraid he has missed the essence of the whole thing in so far as his reference to the parallel postal service is concerned. I would like to assure the House that the private postal service to which I referred in reply to a question by Mr. Chintamani Panigrahi does not involve use of fake stamps. Those 7 agencies carry certain parcels, book them as air freight and, that

reaches the destination and the man receives it. Air freight can be booked by anybody. Those people are not using fake stamps. They are giving it as air freight or sending it through their own transport agencies. Even in that case, we are seized of the matter and we are trying to prosecute them. The case is already before the Presidency Magistrate of Bombay as a trial case, because there has been a lot of legal discussion about it. Government is neither paralysed nor helpless, as he alleged. If Government were paralysed, 22 people would not have been arrested. So far as his fear about the local police is concerned, I want to put on record my great appreciation of the manner in which the Delhi Police helped us in getting these people arrested. I do not want to say more. The matter was referred to the CBI also. But I had not the patience to wait for a long time. So, we decided to involve the local police also. Thanks to the local police, we had all these things unearthed and 22 people have been arrested, including some postal employees.

Regarding the reference in Rajya Sabha in 1970 about fake postcards being used, it is a fact that in 1970 a case of this type was found. That case is pending prosecution before the Delhi Judicial Court. I cannot, therefore, make any comments on that since that matter is *sub judice*; but it is not as if the case was not challaned or the guilty were not arrested. It is for the court now to determine and decide what punishment it should give.

So far as counterfeiting is concerned, the provisions of the Indian Penal Code, section 252 to 258, are very clear. They lay down what punishment can be given. If such cases are proved, the punishment can vary from imprisonment for seven years to transportation for life. Therefore, the government is not helpless, as suggested by the hon. Member. It is only a question of proving the facts before the court which, I am sure, we will do our best to prove, so far as this particular case is concerned.

Then, my hon. friend says that private presses have been entrusted with the printing of post-cards. I am afraid my information is that right up till this day no private press has ever been used for printing of stamps or post-cards. Therefore, the question of private printing presses making use of this does not arise. But it is known to the whole world that there are fake things in almost every field. Of course, there has been no fake Parliament either in this country or outside. Some people have been found to be impersonating either Ministers or Members of the Parliament. They have all been arrested. Therefore, members should not have any apprehension on that score.

The last point of the hon. Member was that this point was raised in the debate on that day. My only point is that though I do not expect my hon. friend, Shri Panda, to congratulate us on all occasions, I do expect that this is one such occasion when he should have congratulated the department and the police for having taken such quick action and rounded up the culprits in such a short period. I am sure the interests which are dear to his heart are safe in the hands of this department.

श्री नरसिंह नारायण वाडे (गोरखपुर) :
मंत्री महोदय ने बहुत ही बहादुरी के साथ इस रिकेट को पकड़ा और पकड़ने के लिए उन्होंने भारी जाल बिछाया। इसके लिए मैं उनको बधाई देता हूँ। लेकिन 1969 से इस तरह के रिकेट चले आ रहे हैं। 1969 में कलकत्ता में मनी आर्डर का फ्राड पकड़ा गया। उसमें श्री आपके अधिकारी शामिल थे। उसके बाद 27 अगस्त, 1969 को दोरीबाला पोस्ट आफिस में सारी डाक और लेटर बैगैरह जले हुए पाए गए। उसके बाद 5 जनवरी, 1970 को बम्बई में जो फौरन चेक और ड्राफ्ट घाते हैं, उनको पकड़ा गया।

एक माननीय सदस्य ने इसके बाद एक प्रश्न उठाया जिसके आधारे पर यहाँ बिबेट हुई और उसकी चर्चा मंत्री महोदय ने की है। लेकिन एक बात साफ है। जितने भी काण्ड हुए हैं उन सारे कांडों में कोई न कोई पोस्ट आफिस का कर्मचारी सम्बद्ध रहा है और वह पकड़ा गया है। अब भी जो सूचना दी गई है क्या वह सच नहीं है और क्या आपने इसकी जांच करा ली है कि वह इस बात पर आधारेत थी कि जब 'बूटी' के होयद का सवाल आया, पैसे के बटवारे का सवाल आया तो फगड़ा हो गया और उसने सारी जितनी फेक स्टैम्पस बीस पैसे की थीं, उनको मंत्री महोदय की सेवा में उपस्थित कर दिया और उपस्थित करके मंत्री महोदय को यह अवसर दिया कि वह इसकी जांच कराए ताकि जो उसके बुवमन हैं वे पकड़े जा सकें और इस रिकेट को सामने लाया जा सके ? यह खुशी की बात है कि ऐसा किया गया है।

आपके जितने स्टैम्प छपते हैं वे सिव्योरिटी प्रेस में छपते हैं। सिव्योरिटी प्रेस के कागज चोर बाजार में आकर बिकते हैं और बिक कर उनके स्टैम्प सारे हिन्दुस्तान में बनते हैं। यह दिल्ली का सवाल नहीं है। राध्र में, बम्बई में ये रिकेट पकड़े गए। क्या यह सच है कि सारे हिन्दुस्तान में एक जाल सा बिछा हुआ है और गवर्नमेंट का करोड़ों रुपया इस में हतबाल्व हो रहा है और करोड़ों रुपया पकड़ा जा रहा है ? मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस बारे में मंत्री महोदय ने कौन से सलाह कदम उठाये हैं। सिर्फ यह कह देने से यह मामला तथ नहीं होने वाला है कि हमको बलू मिला और उसके आधारे पर पुलिस ने दस, बीस, पन्चीस आधिकारियों को ऐरेस्ट कर लिया।

[श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडे]

ब्रिटेन में पोस्ट आफिस तीन सौ साल तक सरकार के नियंत्रण में चलते रहे। जब वहा भी इसी तरह के कांड होने शुरू हुए, तो वहाँ के हाउस आफ कामन्स को यह रिजाल्ट करना पडा कि पोस्टल विभाग को एक कार्पोरेशन को दे दिया जाये। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि यदि सरकार या उनका मंत्रालय इन रिकेट्स को खत्म नहीं कर सकता है, तो क्या वह एक कार्पोरेशन बना कर यह सारी जिम्मेदारी उसको देने के लिए तैयार है।

मैं चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय इस हाउस की एक हाई-पावर्ड कमेटी या सी० बी० आई० के टाप आफिसर्स की एक हाई-पावर्ड कमेटी बना कर इस सारे रिकेट की जांच करायें, क्योंकि यह कोई दो एक रोज का किस्सा नहीं है, बल्कि यह किस्सा तीन-चार साल से चल रहा है और पब्लिक एक्सचेकर के रुपये की बर्बाद किया जा रहा है।

से मंत्री महोदय को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने इस मामले की तरफ सबजजहू दी, लोगों को पकड़वाया और आगे भी इस सिलसिले में कोशिश कर रहें है।

श्री हेमवतीनग्वन बहुगुणा : मैं माननीय सदस्य, श्री पांडे का कृतज्ञ हूँ कि उन्होंने और भी बहुत सी बातें बताई हैं। लेकिन मेरी कठिनाई यह है कि 1969 वगैरह के किसी वाक्य के सम्बन्ध में तत्काल कुछ कहना मेरे लिए सम्भव नहीं है। मैं माननीय सदस्य को सिर्फ यही आश्वासन देना चाहता हूँ कि फारेन चेक्स और दूसरी चीजों पर, जिनके सम्बन्ध में उन्होंने कहा है, हमारी सख्त नजर है।

हमारे पोस्टल डिपार्टमेंट में करीब छः लाख आदमी काम करते हैं। हमारे यहाँ मनी-आर्डर्स और सेविंग बैंक के एकाउंट्स का रुपया करीब 700 करोड़ है। ये छः लाख आदमी उसको हैंडल करते हैं। इस हिसाब से फीसदी गड़बड़ी बिल्कुल बेग्लीजिबल है। लेकिन फिर भी मैं स्वीकार करता हूँ कि अगर हम विभाग में एक फीसदी भी गड़बड़ी हो, तो वह 99 फीसदी अच्छे काम को बिगाडने की शक्ति रखती है और वह नहीं होनी चाहिए।

माननीय सदस्य न पूछा है कि क्या यह सच नहीं है कि जो लोग इस मामले से सम्बद्ध थे, उनका आपस में हिस्सा-बाट का झगडा हो गया हो और तब उनमें से एक न हमको सारी बात बताई हो। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि अगर चोरो में कभी फ्रूट न पड़े, तो कभी कोई केम पकडा ही न जाये। मैं उस आदमी के बारे में कुछ नहीं कहना चाहता हूँ। इस बारे में कोर्ट में विचार होगा कि किसने क्या किया है। इस मामले में इतना ही नहीं कि कुछ आदमी पकड़े गये, पूरा छापाखाना पकडा गया है, दो लाख रुपये की वेंल्यू के स्टैम्प पकडे गये हैं और सारे हिन्दुस्तान में शहर-शहर और जिले-जिले में तफतीश हो रही है।

उन सम्बन्ध में मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि दुनिया का कोई देश ऐसा नहीं है, जो कह सके कि उसके यहाँ कोई फेक पासपोर्ट या स्टैम्प वगैरह का घधा नहीं चल रहा है। दुनिया के देशों में न जाने कितने गैंगस्टर इस तरह के काम कर रहे हैं।

श्री दिनेश सिंह (रतापगढ़) : तो फिर यह सब चलता रहे ?

श्री हेमवतीनग्वन बहुगुणा : श्री दिनेश सिंह बहुत दिन तक हमारे मंत्री रहे हैं।

जहाँ तक मैं सम्भ्रता हूँ, उनके कार्य-काल में भी सरकारी कामकाज आदिमियों के ही हाथ में रहा होगा, देवताओं के हाथ में नहीं। नहीं मैं यह क्लेम कर सकता हूँ कि चूँकि भ्रम में आ गया है, इसलिए सब काम एंजल्ज के हाथ में आ गया है। इसलिए आदिमियों पर जितनी पाबन्दी लगाई जा सकती है, उसको लगाने में हम पूरी तरह से सतर्क हैं।

मेरे दोस्त ने कहा है कि ब्रिटेन में तीन सौ साल तक घपला हुआ, तो जहाँ कार्पोरेशन बना दिया गया। मैं इस वक़्त उस बहम में नहीं जाना चाहता हूँ, क्योंकि उसका हम प्रश्न से सीधा सम्बन्ध नहीं है। लेकिन मैं माननीय सदस्य को बताना चाहता हूँ कि वहाँ पर पोस्टल सर्विस को एक कार्पोरेशन को देने के ये कारण नहीं थे। यहाँ पर भी कार्पोरेशन बना देने से भले ही हम अपनी जिम्मेदारी किसी और को दे दें, लेकिन उससे क्षतानो की दुनिया खत्म नहीं हो जायेगी, फेक स्टैम्प बगैरह बनाने वाले खत्म नहीं हो जायेगे। यदि हम यह समझें कि कार्पोरेशन बनाना ही इस समस्या का सम्पूर्ण और एकमात्र इलाज है, तो इस दिशा में सोचा जा सकता है।

ये स्टैम्प बगैरह नामिक के छापेखाने में छपते हैं। वह छापाना वक़्त एण्ड हाउसिंग मिनिस्ट्री के नीचे काम करता है। जो कागज वह इस्तेमाल करता है, हम उसका मूल्य देते हैं। उस कागज के सम्बन्ध में अगर कोई तथ्य श्री पांडे के पास है और वह उन तथ्यों को बक्स एण्ड हाउसिंग मिनिस्टर को दे दें, तो मैं उनका उपकार मानूँगा। इससे उस मिनिस्ट्री को अपने विभाग की ठीक करने में सहायता मिलेगी।

जहाँ तक सी० बी० धाई० का सम्बन्ध है, हमने पहले ही सी० बी० धाई० को केस दिया था, लेकिन जब हमने देखा कि देर हो रही है, कहीं ऐसा न हो कि सब कुछ तितर-बितर हो जाये, तो हमने लोकल पुलिस द्वारा पकड़वाना शुरू कर दिया। हमने सी० बी० धाई० को रोका नहीं है। वे चाहें तो कर सकते हैं।

I am sorry. I made a slip. प्रिंटिंग प्रेस बक्स एण्ड हाउसिंग मिनिस्ट्री के नहीं, फिनाम मिनिस्ट्री के कंट्रोल में है।

12 27 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

IRON AND STEEL (CONTROL) AMENDMENT ORDER, 1972

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES
(SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Iron and Steel (Control) Amendment Order, 1972 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S. O. 105 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 1972, under sub section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. [Placed in library. See No LT-1662/72]

INDIAN EMIGRATION (AMENDMENT) RULES 1972 AND NOTIFICATION UNDER PASSPORTS ACT, 1967

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY
AFFAIRS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):
Sir, on behalf of Shri Surendra Pal Singh,
I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Indian Emigration (Amendment) Rules, 1972 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 66 (E) in Gazette of India dated 1st February, 1972, under sub-section