

**Mr. Speaker:** According to the press reports, there have been differences between the two Ministers and there have been allegations made, one against the other that there have been favouritism or something shown.....

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Unhealthy trends in licensing.....

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order;...in giving licences. Therefore he suggests that a probe might be had into the issue of licences that have been issued during the last 4 or 5 years.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not know what the hon. Member is basing his information on.

**Mr. Speaker:** Press reports.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Press reports, as I have said, give a distorted view. In fact, there are two press reports that I have seen which differ from each other. I do not think one can go by that. I regret, it is highly objectionable for these confidential letters between Ministers to be published.

**Shri Tyagi:** How did they leak out?

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Somebody must have given out.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I am sorry, I cannot say how they leaked out. Certainly they could only leak out presumably from that Ministry or my office. I am sure they did not leak out from my office.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** There should be a probe into the matter.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** This is the second time that Shri Manubhai Shah has got into this kind of controversy.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** It is unfortunate that there should sometimes be difference of opinion between two Ministers in the same Ministry. On the other hand, there is one healthy

aspect of it that any mistakes committed are found out.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** That is why we want a probe to find out the mistake.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Too many leaks are bad.

1240 hrs.

PROPOSED MERGER OF UAR, IRAQ AND SYRIA INTO ONE FEDERAL STATE AND REACTION OF GOVERNMENT OF INDIA THERETO.

**Shri P. R. Chakraverti (Dhanbad):** I call the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

“Proposed merger of UAR, Iraq and Syria into one Federal State and the reaction of the Government of India thereto.”

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh):** Negotiations which had been going on for some time between the Governments of the U.A.R., Iraq and Syria towards the formation of a Federal State have resulted in final agreement on the merger of the three States. A new Federal State called the United Arab Republic with its capital in Cairo has been agreed upon. All citizens of the Federal State will enjoy Arab nationality, Islam will be the State religion and Arabic the State language. There will also be a common flag based on the present flag of the U.A.R. with three stars instead of two. Provision has also been made for the merger of other States into the Federation.

From information received, the proposed Federal State envisages the election of the President of the Republic and three Vice-Presidents, one for each region. The bi-cameral National Assembly will comprise the Lower House based on the population ratio of the constituent States and the Upper

[Shri Dinesh Singh]

House, comprising equal representation from each of the three regions, 50 per cent. of seats in the two Houses will be earmarked for workers and peasants. The Federal Government will be responsible for defence, external affairs, finance and economic planning.

A referendum on the Constitution and election of the President is proposed to be held before September next, whereafter the Federal State of the United Arab Republic will come into being. Certain interim arrangements have been made for the transitional period to enable the Federation to start functioning pending the holding of referendum.

It is clear that the merger of the U.A.R., Iraq, and Syria into one Federal State is a great historic achievement. We have welcomed it as a significant development towards the realisation of its cherished goals by the Arab people. It portends to bring peace and stability in an area which had for long been subjected to strife. Peace and progress of the Arab people with whom we have had historical and cultural ties for centuries of great interest to us and we have, therefore, welcomed the formation of the new United Arab Republic.

**Shri P. R. Chakraverti:** Is it not a fact that the recent developments in Jordan indicate a growing combination of resurgent forces of Arab nationalism favouring political federation and if so, what are the views of the Government with respect to the remarks made by Mr. Ben Gurion of Israel that Israel will not be indifferent to the influence of President Nasser spreading into Jordan?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** I have not completely heard or understood it. I heard something about Jordan or the reactions to developments in Jordan, that Israel is not liking something happening there. What am I to say about

Israel's likes or dislikes? I do not understand.

**Shri P. R. Chakraverti:** While welcoming the resurgence of Arab nationalism, we have to communicate our views to Mr. Ben Gurion of Israel who states that he can't remain indifferent to the growth of the influence of President Nasser and how we favour it or we disfavour it. We have to communicate our views.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** We have not to communicate anything to anybody, except in so far as our views are broadcast. But, anyhow, we have no direct diplomatic contact with the Israel Government.

**Mr. Speaker:** Now, next item.

**Shri Hanumanthaiya (Bangalore City):** May I just ask one question?

**Mr. Speaker:** I am sorry. I have gone to the next item.

12.14 hrs.

#### ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

##### ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil):** I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (1)(i) of section 5 of the prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, the Members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one Member from among themselves to serve as a member of the Animal Welfare Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act, *vice* Shrimati Sangam Laxmi Bai resigned from the Board."

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (1)(i) of section 5 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals