

an early date to ensure the viability of the section itself?

**SHRI MALLIKARJUN:** As the Hon. Member has mentioned, the diesel car is lying at the moment in Shantipur, no doubt, but the Government has already—probably on the representation of the Hon. Member herself or of somebody else—sent three diesel cars to the Eastern Railway and one of it has been sent to Shantipur-Nabadwipghat section. But, unfortunately, when the diesel car was put on trial, it was found that, for technical reasons, it was not possible to run it. For example, the axle load of the Shantipur line is four and odd tonnes whereas the power car is five and odd tonnes; therefore it is not feasible.

Apart from that, in that area, for the turning up of the rail car there is no turn table land to have triangle.

So, after it was found not feasible, it was to be diverted to the Khatwa-Bardwan section. However on the representation of some people, it is still lying there.

Therefore, I feel that since it is not feasible, the Hon. Member may kindly wait for some time.

**SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI:** I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the local population of Shantipur persuaded the Railway authorities to stop the removal of the diesel train from Shantipur Railway Yard around midnight on 5th January, 1980, and whether, in view of numerous representations from all sections of the people like the Nabadwip Travellers' Association, the Shantipur Travellers' Association, the MLAs, the Chairman of Municipalities and also the Joint Committee of Passengers Associations and Railwaymen's organisations of Sealdah Division etc. Government will take a fresh view of the matter and sit across the table with repre-

sentatives of all these organisations to settle the issue to the satisfaction of all concerned.

**SHRI MALLIKARJUN:** There was no lapse on the part of the Government as the hon. Member has mentioned. About the representation, it is already lying there. Now, in the light of the request of the hon. Member, we will reconsider it and do whatever is necessary and possible.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Supplementaries should not be so lengthy. Next Question.

**Showing of Sikkim and Assam as a separate country by U.S. Magazine**

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\*164. **SHRI P. M. SAYEED:**

**SHRI NAVIN RAVANI:**

Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether American Magazine *Newsweek* of 26th May, 1980, has published a map depicting Sikkim and Assam as separate countries;

(b) whether Government has taken any action in the matter with the U.S. Government;

(c) the reaction of Indian Government in this regard; and

(d) whether Indian Embassy in Washington was instructed to take up the matter with the publishers of the magazine?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO):** Yes Sir, In the Asian Edition of US Magazine "NEWSWEEK" dated May 26, 1980 an inset map of eastern parts of India, Bangladesh and Bhutan has been published on page 12. The whole of Assam and Sikkim have been shown in a different colour from the rest of India.

(b) No Sir, since **NEWSWEEK** is a non-Government publication, raising the matter with the U.S. govern-

ment would not have served our purpose.

(c) and (d). Serious objection of Government of India to this cartographic misrepresentation of Indian territory has been conveyed both to the local representatives of NEWSWEEK in India and to the highest level of management of the NEWSWEEK in New York through our Embassy in Washington. The publishers expressed their regret at their inadvertent error and this regret is also carried in the June 16 issue of NEWSWEEK in the response to a letter from our Embassy.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED rose—

MR. SPEAKER: Is there any scope for supplementaries?

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: I want to ask, Sir.

It is unfortunate that, whenever such a cartographic aggression is taking place.....

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: He has said, 'cartographic misrepresentation.'

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: He has used a mild word; I have to use the word 'aggression.' Is there any objection?

MR. Speaker, Sir, either this august body takes cognizance of this first or the External Affairs Ministry other than our Embassies in the respective countries takes organization of it. To quote an example, in 1970, in a school textbook in Syria the whole of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab, Kashmir and U. P. were shown as part of the Islamic World. The funny thing was this. This information was brought to the notice of the Government by the Israel Consul, Mr. Yakov Morris; our Embassy was not aware of what was happening there. Again, in the case of a map published by the Soviet Union 50,000 sq. miles of our own territory in the NEFA area were gifted away as part of China.

AN HON. MEMBER: Aksai Chin.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Yes.

Thirdly, in UK also the same thing happened in 1968. The National Geographic Magazine has published Kashmir as an independent country. I do not know but either in the West or in the East they have a fancy of taking these things in a very light manner. I just wanted to know from the hon. Minister whether any cartographic aggression done deliberately or otherwise by the respective governments and which has been taken up by the Government of India is pending for rectification and also in this very case, I want to know whether our Embassy has taken note of or taken cognizance of this thing first or the External Affairs Ministry or the august body.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: In this case it is not possible and it was not possible for our Embassy in Washington to take note of it for the simple reason that this is an Asian edition of the Magazine which is not available in the U. S. A. This is available only in the Asian countries. They have different editions for different areas and because this map concerns this area, they have been good enough to tell us about their own error to the people concerned and that is how it has been brought to their notice and rectified.

SHRI P. M. SYEED: In view of the present developments that are taking place in the eastern region, I want to know whether the government has undertaken any intelligent investigation in different countries where such cartographic aggression either deliberately or otherwise was done.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: This does not arise. We do not undertake a wild-goose chase in all countries for cartographic errors or aggression as the hon. Member puts it. As and when these matters come to our notice we take it up with the people concerned.

SHRI NAVIN RAVANI: I would like to know from the hon. Minister

whether the Government is aware of the conspiracy of some foreign countries, particularly, of the western countries and China, to create disturbance and sabotage in our country in the eastern region and what steps have been taken to unearth foreign arms, literature, propaganda material and foreign money and how much the Government is able to do this.

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO:** I do not think there is any connection between the question and the supplementary.

**SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:** The so-called inadvertent mistake of the Newsweek was really not so inadvertent as it appears; it was deliberate and mischievous for in the text which accompanies the map it is mentioned 'India gobbled up Sikkim in 1974.' We forget for the moment this issue of the Newsweek. I would like to ask a general question. I want to know whether the government is aware that the American media—not only newspapers but also the radio and the media of western countries including UK and France, deliberately denigrate this country and any amount of un-Indian and anti-Indian programmes are shown in their media and our people there react strongly to that but our Embassies in those countries do not react as strongly and as promptly as it is desirable. If so, I want to know whether the government will be kind enough to direct our Embassies and our Missions to take immediate action and come out strongly against this misrepresentation and anti-Indian propaganda in the western media.

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO:** In this case I presume that the regrets for the error both cover the map and the text.

So far as the general question is concerned, we are taking steps to see that whenever such propaganda

takes place and wherever it takes place, it is brought to the notice of those governments abroad by our Embassies and the Ministry here to the extent it is necessary. But generally, the reply is that the government as such are not responsible for what the publishers publish. They say theirs is a free society, there is freedom of Press and all the rest of it. So, we are seriously thinking of how to meet this kind of thing effectively. But, so far as protests are concerned, they are being made quite regularly whenever an occasion arises.

**DR. SUBRMANIAM SWAMY:** I agree with the Minister that in regard to non-official cartographic misrepresentation and aggression whatever, we can hardly do anything about it except to bring it to their notice and get an apology for that.

I would like to know from the Minister whether he knows that in certain countries there are officially published maps which do not conform with our view of the border. For example, the Soviet Atlas still publishes parts of Aksai Chin as part of China or as a disputed area. I want to know whether the government is aware of it or not.

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO:** We are aware of official maps also in certain cases misrepresenting facts. Not just one but several cases we have known and we have brought them to the notice of the governments concerned. It seems that some of those who are publishing the maps do it according to their opinions rather than according to facts.

**SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV:** Is it a fact that in Assam, in the post offices in Gauhati, Nowgong, Tejpur and other areas maps depicting Assam as United State of Assam, that is, Greater Assam, are being sold across the counters? If so, what steps does the Government propose to take to stop this? The same

type of map is also being published in the News Weekly. These are being printed in the Government of India post cards and are being distributed and these are being bought by the public. I can give one of the post cards in which they have printed it. Will the Government take action against them?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: If this is being done within the country, then I think, the question should be addressed to the Home Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question. Mr. Imbichi Bava.

#### Financial assistance for Sailing Vessels

\*165. SHRI E. K. IMBICHI BAVA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to hike in oil prices and scarcity of oil, the mechanised cargo boat service has become very difficult; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to provide financial assistance to build sailing vessels in Kerala to overcome the cargo transport problems?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT AND TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India have already introduced a scheme for grant of repayable loans to the maritime State Governments or being disbursed to sailing vessels owners for construction of new mechanised sailing vessels and mechanisation of existing sailing vessels. The Government of Kerala have, however, not availed of any loan assistance under this scheme till the end of 1979-80. The question of granting loan assis-

tance to the Govt. of Kerala for this purpose will be considered as and when a proposal is received from them.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no Supplementary, Next Question.

SHRI MONORANJAN BHAKTA: Mr. Speaker: Sir, I want to put a supplementary on this.

Just now, the hon. Minister has replied that he will provide financial assistance to the sailing vessels. Sir, in this connection, I would like to ask a pertinent question. The Sailing Vessels Association has time and again represented to the Government of India to provide them with the loan assistance from the S. F. D. C. and, if so, whether Government is going to consider this issue of grant of loan assistance from the SFDC with a very minimum interest rate?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: Sir, loans to these sailing vessels are routed through the State Governments and, in this particular case of the sailing vessels, there is a loan amount earmarked for this purpose. As and when the State Governments make a request, such loans are considered. So far as SFDC loan is concerned, it is not available for sailing vessels.

SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL: The Minister stated that the loan was not availed of till 1979-1980. Has the Government of Kerala ever applied and got this assistance in this matter? That is prior to the period 1975-77 have they applied and got this assistance?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: This scheme is working since 1975 and as I have already stated in reply to an earlier question, no request had been made by the Kerala Government so far. Only one request had come from the Kerala Government for Rs. 40 lakhs for importing outboard engines for mechanising the existing sailing fishing vessels. But, no specific request for the release of loan or no detailed applica-