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LOK SABHA

Wednesday, 1st December, 1954

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

12 NOON

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTE ON SAHITYA AKADEMI AND ITS ACTIVITIES

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Defence (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the note on Sahitya Akademi and its activities, promised in the reply given to Starred Question No. 232, asked on the 22nd November, 1954. [Placed in Library. See No. S-453/54.]

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

PRESENTATION OF SIXTEENTH REPORT

Shri Altekar (North Satara): I beg to present the Sixteenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE  
SEARCH OF HOUSE OF A MEMBER OF INDIAN HIGH COMMISSION'S STAFF IN PAKISTAN

Shri KeshavaIengar (Bangalore North): Under rule 215, I beg to call 523 LSD

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the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"Breach of diplomatic convention by the Pakistan Government in searching the house of a member of the Indian High Commission."

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Defence (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): At about 7 A.M. on the 30th October 1954, a large police party raided No. 24, Islamabad, a building occupied by officials of the Indian High Commission in Karachi, without taking the permission of the High Commissioner or even informing him. The police then went to one of the rooms occupied by Shri Tewari, a clerk of the High Commissioner, woke him up and confined him in an adjoining bathroom. Other members of the staff residing in the building were also prevented from leaving their rooms and abused and threatened when they protested against this action. Some members of the raiding party even entered the rooms occupied by the wives of the staff and threatened to search them.

Having confined Shri Tewari in the bathroom, the police ransacked his room. The protests of the Deputy High Commissioner, who had since arrived on the spot, against the high handed action of the Pakistani police were ignored by the Pakistani authorities in charge of the raid, who threatened to arrest Shri Tewari and take him away for interrogation.

The police party withdrew after over four hours, only after the Deputy High Commissioner had personally represented the matter to the Prime Minis