

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Trivedi, his question was very categorical whether this firm was involved. He is not accusing the Central Government; he is asking a question about this firm.

SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI: Sir, as I said, the River Bridge Commissioner probably had the information to that effect which the hon. Member has suggested. It was for that reason that the River Bridge Commissioners thought that probably their own consultants should also look at the designs which were furnished by Freeman Fox and Partner.

SHRI JYOTIRMAY BOSU: Yes, he has not replied at all. Is it or is it not a fact that the consultants' designs of bridges, in the past which were washed away were due to faulty design?

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Sir, this involves a great national interest. Definitely the consultants are involved. It is a fact. I think the Minister may kindly make an enquiry.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister should be careful. Some bridges are collapsing.

Visit to India by US Secretary of State

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*145. **SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR:**

SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. Secretary of State, Dr. Henry Kissinger, visited New Delhi during October, 1974;

(b) the broad outlines of the subjects of discussions he had with our Government;

(c) the agreements arrived at between the two countries as a result of this visit; and

(d) whether Indo-American relations have now been restored to normalcy and better understanding and cooperation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) Yes,

(b) The discussions covered a wide range of subjects including bilateral relations, situation in South Asia and neighbouring regions, a review of the global affairs, detente and world economic situation.

(c) An agreement to set up an Indo-U.S. Joint Commission was signed by the U.S. Secretary of State and the Indian Minister for External Affairs on October 22.

(d) The visit has contributed to better understanding between the two countries. It has also enabled the U.S. Secretary of State to have a better appreciation of India's views on major questions of bilateral, regional and international importance.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my friend, the Deputy Minister, is honourable and he is replying very confidently.

May I know whether in view of the fact that Dr. Kissinger's visit had been postponed more than once and after this long-awaited visit, now that he arrived and had discussions with the leaders of Government of India—in reply to part (b) he has mentioned some other subjects too—the Government of India also brought to the distinguished guest's notice the Indian Government's and its people's feelings and concern about the naval exercises which the U.S.A. and other countries had been doing in the Indian Ocean and whether questions of foodgrains from the U.S.A. to India were also discussed? I want to know also whether the Sino-American relations and the Soviet-Indian relations also came in for a review in the discussions?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Mavalankar, you are asking all at the same time. I think the Minister did reply some of the questions earlier. But, I do not mind if he repeats them again.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: He referred to certain subjects having been discussed. About certain subjects which are not referred to in the answer, I asked whether they were also discussed, and if so, in what way.

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: He wants to know whether we discussed about the Indian Ocean. We did. Secondly, he wants to know whether we discussed about foodgrains and all that. We generally discussed the food problem in the whole world and the Rome Conference which has meanwhile been held where the United States wanted to announce their policy which they have done. He also wants to know whether we discussed Sino-American relations. We do not discuss relations between other countries; we only discuss our mutual relations.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Sino-American relations in the context of Sino-Indian relations.

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: I do not think that the question arises.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: In part (c) of the answer, he has mentioned some agreement. Will he give broad details of it? In answer to part (d), he has referred to 'better understanding' and 'better appreciation', whereas I asked whether the relations between the two countries have been restored to normalcy. I would like to know whether after the visit of Dr. Kissinger, Indo-American relations have been restored to normalcy with a view to making for better relationship. Also is it a fact that the Prime Minister of India left for Srinagar while Dr. Kissinger was still in Delhi and whether this irritated the visiting guest?

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: He has asked too many questions. I will answer two. The first question was whether there was any agreement. I think he knows that our External Affairs Minister and Dr. Kissinger signed an agreement to set up the Indo-US Joint Commission which has already been published. Therefore, I do not think I need go into the details in the House. The second point was whether there is understanding or normalcy in the relations between India and the USA. I have already

said in my reply that in the course of the discussions we tried to understand each other's points of view and as a result, there is more and more understanding and we are proceeding towards normalcy.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: What about the last point?

SHRI PILOO MODY: Srinagar. The bird had flown.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Azad.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: While appreciating the agreement which has been described by the hon. Minister as a bilateral agreement and also for international peace and all that, may I know whether even before the ink on this agreement had dried there was entry of warships of the USA into the Indian Ocean and naval exercises were there along with the CENTO powers? If so, does this help understanding between India and the US in terms of the Indo-US commission that was set up? Does it help peace in South East Asia, and if so, in what way? In what way does this provocative attitude of the warships of the USA help the cause of this agreement? Has the Atlantic become so small for the American warships and CENTO warships that they now want to come into the Indian Ocean and disturb the entire peace in this part of the world, thereby challenging the same understanding and agreement that the USA wants to display towards the Indian people? In this regard, have the Government of India sent any communication to the USA that this attitude does not behave them under the agreement?

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: We have already said several times that we view with very serious concern the naval exercises taking place in the Indian Ocean and the proposal to establish US military bases. On that point, we have not hidden anything. Our viewpoints were expressed very clearly to the Secretary of State. On this point, we have already said that we continue to differ. Our views are different from theirs on this point.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE. Is it a fact that after the signing of the agreement, our External Affairs Minister made a statement that the Government are not taking any initiative to mobilise public opinion of the littoral countries against these naval exercises? Does this signify that there has been some understanding whereby India has given up the initiative to mobilise public opinion against these exercises?

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS. What the External Affairs Minister meant was this: that if you want to mobilise the opinion of the littoral countries and confine it to this area only, there are complications. Some littoral countries are obviously on the other side and opinions differ. Our efforts have been to mobilise world public opinion through the United Nations, to put pressure on the big powers so that they do not indulge in such activities.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: My question was whether India will take the initiative. He has not replied to that. You have given up the initiative.

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: I have already said that there is no point in taking the initiative only with the littoral countries. We are taking the initiative to mobilise world public opinion.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE. That is not the statement of the Minister of External Affairs.

श्री सुहृन्म्वद जमीनुरहमान अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप के जरिये एक छोटा सा सवाल करना चाहता हूँ। यह स्टेटमेंट जो उन्होंने टेबल पर ले लिया है उस को देखने के बाद ऐसा जाहिर होता है कि कुछ प्रचलित-विद्यमान भारत और यू०ए०ए० दोनों देशों के दरमि्यान हुई है। उस बातचीत के दौरान मैं क्या यह बात डिस्कस की गई कि हिन्दुस्तान में एकनामिक सिंबुएशन का कुछ लोग नाजायब फायदा उठाते हुये सी०आइ०ए० ने जो अपनी एक्टिविटीज तेज की है, इस हरकत को बन्द करने क्या इसके बारे में श्री भारत

सरकार ने अपनी बात कह कर यू०ए०ए० का आगाह किया ?

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS This point was raised in Washington itself, and the Government of the USA made it clear that there were no CIA agents in this country, if we could point out any, name any person they would withdraw them from here. (Interruptions).

MR SPEAKER All of you, please sit down

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD Is it also in the knowledge of the Government of India that there are no CIA agents in this country? (Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER Please sit down. What are you doing?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD We want to know whether it is also within the knowledge of the Government of India that there are no CIA agents in this country? The Minister said that in the USA, the Government of the USA made it clear at Washington. I want to know whether, according to the opinion of the Government of India, there are CIA activities in this country or not. (Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE Instead of this hullabaloo, you should allow a few more supplementaries.

MR SPEAKER I have allowed them. But they enjoy the hullabaloo more than the supplementaries! I will not call any Member unless all of them sit down. I never said that I would not allow any supplementaries but they enjoy doing this. **Shri R. S. Pandey**

SHRI R. S. PANDEY. In order to have permanent peace in Asia, may I know whether the attention of Dr. Henry Kissinger had been drawn to this and he had been asked to use his good offices not to supply arms to Pakistan and if so what is his reaction? Secondly, at what stage was the matter about CIA referred to and what was the answer and what was his reaction? Because some newspapers from America said categorically that CIA was operating in all the countries and

Chile was "one of the countries which suffered. May I know whether this matter was referred to and what precise answer was given by Dr. Henry Kissinger about CIA operations which jeopardise our sovereignty?

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: Whatever Dr. Kissinger told us, he also made it public in his Press Conference on 30 October. He stated categorically two things: firstly, that the United States would not participate in any arms race in this sub-continent and secondly, the United States was not engaged directly or indirectly in any attempt to influence the domestic situation in India.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: In reply to a question regarding the CIA, the hon. Minister said that the Ambassador of the United States clarified that there was nothing like that in India. I should like to invite his attention to various statements issued by Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma when he was the Congress President and the recent statement.... (Interruptions).

श्री मन्त्रालयों के कार्य में प्रीजिडेंट तो ब्रह्म अस्टर होता है।

अव्यक्त होकर, ऐसी बातें कहना बड़ा बुराईयों को मोषा देना है, आप को नहीं देना है।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: In this very House the hon. Home Minister in those days, Shri Uma Shankar Dikshit also said that care was taken to minimise the CIA activities. I want to know whether the nefarious activities of some of the high officials of the US Embassy—I can give the names—supposed to be the CIA chief have been brought to his knowledge and what positive action has been taken in this regard? May I know whether during Mr. Kissinger's visit it was pointed out that either these officers must be taken away by the US Government or they will be kicked out of this country?

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: I cannot answer any point referred to by the

Congress President. The question asked was whether this matter was raised with Mr. Kissinger. I have already stated the reply given by Mr. Kissinger.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Last year I put a question to the Home Ministry about the functioning of the World Youth Assembly operating from Chanakyapuri, whether they are getting US dollars or foreign money. The Home Minister admitted it. I put a half-hour discussion notice but it was rejected. I would like to know whether this Ministry will discuss in detail with the Home Ministry about the operation of CIA and activities of organisations like the World University Service and World Assembly of Youth, who are spending more than a thousand dollars per month in the name of youth welfare and creating disturbance in various places. I would also like to know whether before Mr. Kissinger arrived in India, he admitted in the United States that the United States Government has a policy of spending millions of dollars in various developing nations to subvert the governments there from within and this has been confirmed by President Ford? May I know whether our Minister had discussions with Mr Kissinger about this matter and the attitude of India to it and if so, what answer he got?

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: So far as the first question is concerned, that may be referred to the Home Ministry. The second question, I have already answered.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: May I know what does the hon. Minister want to say in the context of what Mr. Chavan had stated, namely, that the CIA is operating from 4 centres in this country—Bangalore, Calcutta, Delhi and Bombay?

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: I cannot answer on behalf of the Home Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: The question hour is over.