

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) :** (a)

Yes, Sir. The Pakistanis have sought to make propaganda out of the detention of some West Pakistanis who had entered India illegally,

(b) to (d). Government do not understand why the Pakistan Government should exhibit special solicitude for a handful of people when they have forced 7 million people to flee East Bengal.

It is all the more strange that Pakistan should seek to make propaganda about a handful of her nationals when she has failed to provide information about let alone release, a very large number of Indian nationals in her jails.

These facts are well-known to our missions and are used for countering Pakistani propaganda.

**Sino-Indian Contacts on People-to-people
level**

*1359. **SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report in the Indian Express of the 28th June, 1971 stating that Peking has sent fresh instructions to its diplomats to develop contacts with "helpful" Indians on people-to-people level ;

(b) whether Government have received any report in this regard from its Mission in Peking ; and

(c) if so, the main features thereof ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) :** (a) to (c). The Government has seen the report of the Hong Kong correspondent of the Indian Express dated June 27 from Hong Kong. The Government is not aware if any such instructions to have been sent out by Peking, but Chinese diplomats and representatives are adopting a normal and correct attitude to most foreigners including Indians in recent months. The Government has not received any report from Peking in this regard but our Commission in Hong Kong has reported to us on this matter.

**Acute Scarcity of Drinking Water in
Himachal Pradesh**

*1361. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND
PARASHAR :** Will the Minister of
HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be
pleased to state :

(a) whether a team of Engineers visited recently a few villages of Hamirpur Tehsil in Himachal Pradesh where there is an acute scarcity of drinking water, to conduct a survey ; and

(b) if so, the findings of the team according to its report ?

**THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND
HOUSING AND HEALTH AND FAMILY
PLANNING (SHRI UMA SHANKAR
DIKSHIT) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement containing the findings of the team is enclosed.

Statement

The main findings in the Draft Report of the Working Groups for Development of Himalayan Region for Drinking Water Supply, Irrigation, Roads and Power for Hamirpur and Sarkaghat Tehsils of Himachal Pradesh are as follows :

1. There are no wells in the area and people are facing great inconvenience in procuring drinking water.
2. At present surface run off water from the hills is intercepted and collected in Khatties (underground matcha water storage tanks). The water stored in Khatties contains insects and is hardly fit for human consumption.
3. A scheme for tapping the spring water known as Bouroo, costing Rs. 42 lakhs which will also cover 17 villages in this problem area in Hamirpur, has already been sanctioned by the Government of Himachal Pradesh. Remaining villages of the Hamirpur side of Khad will have to be covered under a separate scheme based on supply of water from Beas which is the only reliable source of drinking water in the area.
4. A multiple stage pumping scheme will have to be investigated in detail to supply water to the

villages in Sarkaghat area from Beas river which is nearly eight miles from highest point in the area near Awa Devi.

काफी से कैंसर के सम्बन्ध में
"लेन्सट" में लेख

*1363. श्री रामावतार झास्त्री : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या काफी से कैंसर हो सकता है जैसा एक अमरीकी वैज्ञानिक द्वारा एक लेख में लिखा गया है, और जो ब्रिटिश मेडिकल मैगजीन "लेन्सट" के नवीनतम अंक में प्रकाशित हुआ है ; और

(ख) क्या सरकार ने इस बारे में कोई अनुसंधान किया है ; और यदि हाँ, तो इसके क्या परिणाम निकले ?

निर्माण और आवास तथा स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मन्त्री (श्री उमा शंकर दीक्षित) : (क) और (ख). काफी से कैंसर हो सकता है इसके बारे में सरकार ने प्रैस रिपोर्टें देखी हैं। इस कथन की सत्यता को जानने के लिए भारतीय वैज्ञानिकों द्वारा कोई अनुसंधान नहीं किया गया है। यहां तक कि डाक्टर कोले ने भी, जिन्होंने यह विचार व्यक्त किया ही है, कहा है कि हो सकता कैंसर समस्या का काफी से कोई भी सम्बन्ध न हो।

Retrenchment of Employees working
in General Reserve Engineer Force

*1364. SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of employees, who were working in the General Research Engineer Force, have been retrenched during the month of April, 1971 ; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the mass retrenchment ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE
(SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) and (b).

The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Nationalisation of Oil, India Limited.

*1369. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Burmah Oil Company has 50 per cent shares in the Oil India Limited ;

(b) if so, whether there is an agreement in this regard and the date of its expiry ; and

(c) whether on expiry, Government propose to have majority shares and also progressively move towards 100 per cent shares ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM
CHEMICALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The agreement is a formation agreement constituting the company called Oil India Limited registered in India under the Companies Act, 1956 in which the Government of India and The B. O. C. are equal equity holders. This agreement has no time limit.

Appointment of Government Agency to
look into Working of Store
Organisations of Hospitals
in Delhi

*1372. SHRI MULKI RAJ SAINI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Government Agency was appointed to look into the working conditions of the Store Organisations of the Centrally administered hospitals in Delhi to improve efficiency ;

(b) if so, what were the recommendations of that Agency ; and

(c) whether Government have implemented the recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND
HOUSING AND HEALTH AND FAMILY
PLANNING (SHRI UMA SHANKAR
DIKSHIT) : (a) No Government Agency was appointed specifically to look into the working of the Store Organisations in the Centrally administered hospitals in Delhi,