

MR. SPEAKER : This does not arise out of this.

SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI : Apart from lodging protests with the Nepal Government against Pakistan's anti-Indian propaganda there, what positive action has been taken by our embassy there, that is Kathmandu, to present the real picture of happenings in our country ?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : Our embassy in Kathmandu, through its publicity media, does take action to counter Pakistani propaganda and to put the proper picture before the people of Nepal as regards the situation prevailing in this country.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : We are bound by cultural ties with Nepal but there may be some shortcomings in our policy. That is why Nepal is moving away from us. Can the Minister spell out those shortcomings ?

MR. SPEAKER : It is too general a question.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Has the Minister's attention been drawn to a statement issued in Calcutta and which appeared in almost all the newspapers that several thousand Nepalese in Dinajpur, Rangpur and other districts in East Bengal have been butchered by the Pakistan army ? If so, has this been brought to the attention of the Government of Nepal by our embassy there ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : The Nepal Government know full well about what is happening to their citizens in Bangla Desh or anywhere else. It is not for us to tell them.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Is it not our duty to counteract Pakistan propaganda through our embassy there ? Why is our embassy there if not for doing this duty ?

MR. SPEAKER : I have to seek some remedy against the hon. member interrupting every now and then. In the last Parlia-

ment, I used to get over this by taking aspirin, but not this time.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : You should also protest our rights.

MR. SPEAKER : I would again request him not to interrupt every now and then.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : I always submit to you.

MR. SPEAKER : Do not force me.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप ऐस्पिरिन लेते हैं यहाँ आप ने इस की घोषणा कर दी है तो वृत्ति यह रेकार्ड में जायेगा इसलिए यह इतिहास का विषय बनेगा। हमारे मेम्बर होते हुए आप ऐस्पिरिन लें तो यह हमारे ऊपर लाञ्छन होगा।

MR. SPEAKER : That is an old story with Prof. Samar Guha only, not with any other Member. It is a story of the last Parliament, it is not concerned with this Parliament.

SHRI P. K. Deo : Is it a fact that land-locked Nepal is trying to organise a shipping corporation and they wanted some harbour facilities in Calcutta, and as it was not allowed, they have switched over their allegiance to Pakistan ?

MR. SPEAKER : I am not allowing it.

Repatriation of Staff of Indian Deputy High Commissioner's Office at Dacca

*157. SHRI BALATHANDAYUTHAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (VIDESH MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pakistan authorities tried to scuttle the measures taken by India to evacuate the families of Indian Diplomatic staff in Dacca ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far by Government to get these Indians evacuated ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (VIDESH MANTRI) (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is in continuous touch with the Pakistan Government over this matter. Government has also been in touch with the Ambassadors of some friendly countries in New Delhi in this matter.

SHRI BALATHANDAYUTHAM : May I know whether we still believe that Pakistan will stick to diplomatic etiquette? Is it not necessary for the Government to take more drastic action with the experience we have now gained, and how is it that our Government is not even acting on the principle of reciprocity, but allowing Mr. Masud in Calcutta to go and interview those who have opted for Bangla Desh? If you are so tolerant, how do you expect your threats to have any value?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : I have no information that the ex-Deputy High Commissioner of Pakistan in Calcutta has gone to the houses of those belonging to the original Pakistani Deputy High Commission in Calcutta for the purpose of interviews. In fact, that has been one of the suggestions made by Pakistan that they would like to ascertain by such interviews whether those who defected had genuinely defected or not. I am not aware of any such interview that the former Pakistani Deputy High Commissioner in Calcutta might have had.

SHRI BALATHANDAYUTHAM : Why are you not intervening those in Calcutta when they have intervened our people? Why is it we are not acting in reciprocity? What stands in the way? Why are we hesitating?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : Our Deputy High Commissioner and his staff have ceased to be of any functional character in Dacca and similarly the Deputy High Commissioner of Pakistan in Calcutta is also not working. Our effort is really to get out our people and also to send out those people, and talks are going on in this respect. It is easy to be hard on those who are here, but our main objective in this should be to get our people out.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : The hon. Minister replied just now that our

personnel in Dacca working in the Deputy High Commissioner's office have not been allowed to function so far. As a matter of fact, though the Minister has not said so, they have been interned, but we find that, though the Minister has not said so clearly, the former Pakistani Deputy High Commissioner in Calcutta has been allowed to interview those who are working in the Bangla Desh Mission. Mr. Mehdi Masud has been given VIP treatment. On the one hand our people are not allowed to function in Dacca, but on the other hand we are given him VIP treatment. Will the hon. Minister be pleased to declare him *persona non grata* and immediately intern him from Calcutta?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : He is no longer the Deputy High Commissioner of Pakistan in Calcutta. The office of the Deputy High Commissioner has ceased to function there. You should try to understand the delicacy involved rather than pressing the same point again and again.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : My question has not been answered. Why is he given VIP treatment?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : There is no question of any VIP treatment. We are committed, according to the Geneva Convention, to give him....

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : In Dum Dum he was kept in the VIP room, as he had no place in Calcutta.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : If he had no place in Calcutta, the Government has to protect his person, and nobody should grudge whatever arrangement we made for that.

SHRI P. K. DEO : He was put up in Orissa Bhavan in Calcutta.

SHRI TRIDIB CAHUDHURI : It has been the contention of the Pakistan Government that unless Mr. Masud is allowed to interview separately their former High Commission officials who have declared their allegiance to Bangla Desh, they will not talk about repatriation, but has it been pointed out to them from our side that

since the Pakistan Government took the decision to close down their Deputy High Commissioner's office in Calcutta, Mr. Masud has no *locus standi* and he cannot demand the interviews because it is on their demand that the Deputy High Commissioner's Office was closed ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : The basic question is not whether Mr. Masud should interview them. If we take a narrow legalistic point as mentioned by the hon. Member, the Pakistan High Commissioner in Delhi can send some other person to interview. That is not the basic point. What we have been saying is that we do not prevent or come in the way of those who have indicated their desire to remain in India or to represent Bangla Desh if they want to meet Mr. Masud or anybody else. It is their concern. What we cannot do is to compel them to meet him.

Medical Treatment of Central Government Employees In Punjab

*158 **DR. SARADISH ROY :** Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SWASTHYA AUR PARIVAR NIYOJAN MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had issued new orders about the medical treatment of its employees in Punjab, prohibiting them from directly getting treatment from civil hospitals without consulting the Chief Medical Officer ;

(b) whether Government have noted the protests made by the employees and their organisations in Punjab ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SWASTHYA AUR PARIVAR NIYOJAN MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI) (SHRI A. K. KISKU) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha,

Statement

According to the Central Services (Medical Attendance) Rules, a Central Government servant can receive medical attendance/

treatment in any of the civil hospital, run by the State Government without consulting Chief Medical Officer. In a case where the Central Government servant wishes to receive treatment in a specialised institution, such treatment can only be received on a reference from the Chief Medical Officer.

So far as Punjab is concerned, the Government of India have not issued any orders prohibiting Central Government servants from directly receiving treatment from any civil hospital. No protests have also been received from any Government Organisation. In so far as Chandigarh is concerned, a representation was received that Central Government servants should directly receive treatment from the out-patient departments of the Nehru Hospital attached to the Post-graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh. This representation was considered, but was not agreed to as there is a civil hospitals already functioning in Chandigarh in Sector 16.

DR. SARADISH ROY : In view of the fact that till now treatment was allowed in the Out-patient Department of the Nehru Hospital attached to the Post-graduate Institute of Medical Education, what prompted the Government to withdraw such permission ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (NIRMAN AUR AWAS TATHA SWASTHYA AUR PARIVAR NIYOJAN MANTRI) (SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT) : There was really never any such permission given at all, and so there is no question of the permission having been withdrawn. It is a post-graduate institute. In the first instance, the Central Government servants have to go the civil hospital, and if there is any special case requiring specialised attention, then with the permission of the chief attending there and the approval of the Director of Medical Services, he can get all the attention and treatment there in the Post-Graduate Institute.

DR. SARADISH ROY : Government servant servants are facing much difficulty in getting permission from such high officials who are often away on tour and not