

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, November 21, 1973/
Kartika 30, 1895 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Arrest of a Pakistani Spy at Allahabad, U.P.

*141. SHRI N. K. SANGHI:
SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether S. R. Hasan was arrested in Allahabad on the 20th October, 1973 on suspicion of being a Pakistani Spy;

(b) whether in his confession, he is reported to have stated *vide* news-item appearing in the Indian Express dated the 27th October, 1973 that he was working on instructions from a Delhi Industrialist and passed on valuable defence secrets to Pakistan,

(c) whether he is also reported to have confessed his links with Pakistan through the Delhi Industrialist that he received large sums of money and that he has a rented flat in Defence Colony, New Delhi; and

(d) if so, the action taken against the persons concerned and the Industrialist?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT):
(a) to (d). According to information

received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, one person in army uniform and calling himself as S.R. Hassan was arrested on 10th October, 1973 in Allahabad. A case u/s 140/147 IPC and rule 7/56/50 of D.I.R. 1971 has been registered against him. He has not made any confession, as stated in the press report. Investigation of the case is in progress,

SHRI N. K. SANGHI: In view of the increased espionage activity in this country and the growing trouble that is going on in Kashmir supported by Pakistani subversive agents, may I know how much of the information that the papers have given in this case that the man is having high contacts and relations with senior Army and Police officers in Pakistan, that he is a son of the retired Superintendent of Police of U.P. and that he has got connections with some industrialist in Delhi, is true and what information the Government has got about him.

SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT: This person whose real name is Shri Wasimuzzafar Hassan is a common cheat. He has himself admitted that he was in jail for 12 years. About eight convictions have already taken place. There are two other cases still pending, one at Bombay and the other at Allahabad. He is the son of a former Deputy Superintendent of Police. In the house where he was living, there were two Army officers occupying another part of the house. He, subsequently, got in bad company. He has been using this method of either accusing other people of espionage or calling himself a spy in order to get out of trouble. Upto the time of speaking, the information received by us shows that he is not connected with any espionage activity.

At one stage of investigation in which an officer of the Intelligence Bureau was also associated, he did say these things. Subsequently, he resiled from that. His method seems to be that whenever he thinks he has got into serious trouble, he says, "I have an important information about Pakistan" and, then, the Police are somewhat taken in, for the time being, and he gets out of it. That is how he has managed to cheat so many people. He is a notorious trickster.

So far as the espionage aspect of the matter is concerned, in this case, on the basis of the present information, I can assure the House that there is nothing to feel concerned about it.

SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Pakistan is raising a "Suicide Squad" like the "Black September" one in the Middle-East. May I know whether this person has got any connection with such a Squad?

SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT: Not to our knowledge.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: From the press statement in the *Indian Express* on the basis of which we tabled the Question, it was clearly reported that this gentleman who according to the hon. Minister is a common cheat, not a proper cheat, was staying in a house in the Defence Colony which house was used for passing information to Pakistan through an industrialist in Delhi. In view of the revelation made in the papers, whether he has confessed or not, I would like to know if the case will be given to the C.B.I. for a proper probe because one of the industrial houses of Delhi is involved in it.

SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT: According to his own statement and information otherwise available, in consequence of the investigation carried on upto now, he is alleged to have cheated the so-called industrialist in Delhi of Rs. 5000.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Who is the industrialist?

SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT: We cannot disclose the name at this stage. He is a small industrialist who is carrying on some small business. There is nothing sensational about either the size or the name or the operations of the person in question. There is an investigation going on. The House may take it from me that there is no such suspicion justified at present.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Sir, I want your protection. In this case, the hon. Minister has admitted that a particular industrialist has been cheated of Rs. 5000. Our information is that this particular industrialist was using Mr. Hassan for his purpose, for his business, for the purpose of passing certain information to Pakistan. That is why he paid Rs. 5000 to him. I want to know whether this particular industrialist has been arrested or not. He is a party to the whole thing.

AN HON. MEMBER: Has he been questioned?

SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT: He has been questioned. According to present information, he was also a victim of his method of operations.

SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: The word 'confession' under the Criminal Procedure Code means, confession made to a Magistrate. The man may not have made a confession to the Magistrate. But he must have made some admissions to the police. I want to know whether he has made some admissions to the police and, if so, what are those admissions.

SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT: He made such a large number of self-contradictory statements that I think it may entertain the House, but no truth will become available.

MR. SPEAKER: I think it is enough.