

RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 21st February, 1975/the
2nd Phalgun, 1896 (Saka).

The House met at eleven of the
clock,

Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

RE 'SPECIAL MENTION' ABOUT ALLEGED DISCOVERY OF GOLD, ETC. WITH THE MAHARANI OF GWALIOR

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Aziza
Imam.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:
Sir, I had given you a letter seeking
suspension of the rules today . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will explain
after the Question Hour. Or with the
permission of the House, I may say
that Mr. Subramanian Swamy came
and met me in my Chamber to-day.
He pointed out how confusion has
been created by the hon. Member to
whom I gave permission to make a
'Special Mention'. He mentioned . . .

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:
Rajmata.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know. Mr.
Subramanian Swamy explained it to
me. I repeated here and I will be
more cautious in granting permisison to
Members.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: But don't give
protection to the Maharani of Jaipur.

(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: I wanted to
mention this with the permission of
the House itself.

SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE: All
Rajmatas are the same.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Aziza
Imam.

1913 R.S.—I

ORAL ANSWER TO QUESTIONS

Supply of arms to Pakistan by China

*91. SHRIMATI AZIZA IMAM:†

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI:

SHRI HARSH DEO MALA-
VIYA:

DR. V. B. SINGH:

SHRI R. K. MISHRA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE
be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware
that China has agreed to supply arms
to Pakistan; and

(b) if so, what are the details re-
garding the type of arms that are
being supplied to Pakistan by that
country?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE
(SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a)
and (b) Government are aware that
China has been supplying sizeable
quantities of arms to Pakistan for
some years. These supplies include
tanks, Ack Ack guns, and other types
of guns, gun boats and Torpedo boats
as well as aircraft with several roles.
In addition, Pakistan has been re-
ceiving from China consignments of
spares, components and small arms
and ammunition. The impact of such
developments on our defence prepare-
dness is fully taken into account
while planning our defence measures.

SHRIMATI AZIZA IMAM: Sir, it
was just the other day that we were
discussing about the supply of arms
to Pakistan by the USA. Now this
question is about the supply of
arms by China. It is a matter of
great concern to us as such supplies
have serious repercussions on peace
and stability in the sub-continent. I
think if we had normal relations with
China this question would not have

†The question was actually asked
on the floor of the House by Shrimati
Aziza Imam.

arisen. However it remains a fact that we have no contact with China but we have some relations with Pakistan as an outcome of the Simla Agreement. Therefore, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has taken up this issue with the Pakistan Government.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Sir, I think we have, if I may say so, a more formal contact with China as compared to Pakistan because the Indian mission in Peking and the Chinese mission in Delhi function, whereas there is no Pakistani mission in Delhi nor an Indian mission in Islamabad. In the substantive part of her question, the hon. Member says that we should take it up with Pakistan. I do not think that any useful purpose will be served by taking it up with Pakistan. We have made the position clear that arming of Pakistan, from whatever source, is a factor which will come in the way of normalisation of relations between India and Pakistan and will come in the way of establishment of durable peace in the sub-continent. This position is fully known to Pakistan. Notwithstanding all this, Pakistan is trying to acquire arms from various sources including China. The hon. lady Member has also rightly mentioned that there is concern in the country on account of the contemplated decision by the United States with regard to supply of arms to Pakistan I share her concern.

SHRIMATI AZIZA IMAM: Sir, in view of the developments regarding the arms supply to Pakistan by both China and the USA, I would like to know whether the Government is considering the question of raising the issue in the U.N. I am putting this question because in this arms race it is the developing countries which suffer and it is the big powers which gain.

SARDAR SAWARAN SINGH: I think where the big powers like China and the USA are concerned, little

purpose can be served by raising the issue in the UN because both of them can almost stifle any discussion since both of them have got the right of veto.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: If that is the case, then you can get out of the UN.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I think the learned professor knows a little better and I think he knows that we cannot wish away the UN that way. We have to realise what the UN is and try to look after our interests in the best possible manner. There is no condemnation of the UN as such. This is only a statement of fact.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: Sir, the Vice-Minister for Sports and Culture of the Chinese Government who is also the leader of the World Table Tennis Delegation to India, Mr. Chao Cheng-Hung or something like that—excuse me if I cannot pronounce his name correctly—has been saying some very nice words about the Hindi-Chini Bhai Bhai spirit and about the old India China friendship and all that. Since no Chinese spokesman can speak a word without the sanction of the leadership there—he has spoken in the same language again in Delhi also—it seems—that there is an indication by the Chinese spokesman that they want better relations with India. Further, since the honourable Minister has just now said that there are more formal contacts with China than with Pakistan, may I ask the honourable Minister whether he would consider the question of furthering the cause of India-China friendship by which this gentleman has been swearing at the moment? I would like to know whether the Minister would like to raise this question with the Chinese Government through our Mission there stating that since they want friendship with India and we also want friendship with them they should stop supplying arms to Pakistan. I want to know whether the Government has

a mind to raise this question at the diplomatic level with China.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Sir, perhaps this question, if I may say so, relates to Question No. 102 which is listed for today and my colleague. Mr. Chavan, would be answering that question about the dialogue with China and all these matters can perhaps better be discussed when that question is reached.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: Sir, it cannot be reached today.

SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY: Sir, on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No point of order. It has already been decided by this House that no points of order will be raised during the Question Hour. Therefore, please resume your seat.

SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY: Sir, my point of order is....

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. point of order can be raised. Please sit down.

SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY: Sir, my submission is that Question No. 102...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please. You are not allowed to put a supplementary or raise a point of order.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: Sir, may I make a very humble submission? We generally do not reach more than four or five questions in a day. So, this particular question may not be reached at all today. Therefore, Sir, may I request the honourable Minister to kindly say a few words on this issue?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please. Yes, Dr. Singh. Not here. Yes, Mr. R. K. Misra. Not here. Yes, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, the supply of arms to Pakistan by China has undoubtedly very great relevance to the problem of defence. Is he aware that while the Chinese supply of arms to Pakistan should be condemned by every patriotic Indian, Shri Jayaprakash Narayan, in public meetings has been, on the one hand, praising Maoist China for its great stand according to him, and on the other—that is also relevant to defence—has been advising the members of the armed forces, para-military organisations and the other Government employees not to obey the orders which they may consider to be anti-people?

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: What is this?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Why does he get up? The very fact that he has got up proves the relevance of my question. Supply of arms to Pakistan by China affects us and Shri Jayaprakash Narayan is praising Maoist China. . . . (Interruptions). Shri Jayaprakash Narayan asked the members of the Armed Forces, the Police and other para-military organisations to . . . (Interruptions). Why are they upset? Is the hon. Minister aware that we are faced with the problem of national security? On the one hand it is the supply of arms to Pakistan by U. S. and China and on the other Shri Jayaprakash Narayan is praising Maoist China and the U.S. and at the same time asking the Armed Forces to revolt. I know they will never do so. I would like to know what steps Government is going to take in order to prevent spreading of disaffection among our Armed Forces and an armed rebellion by them . . . (Interruption).

श्री रवी राय : अब रिलेवेन्स के बारे में आप को कहना पड़ेगा ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister may reply only to the part pertaining to China.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: We in this House should have the greatest confidence in the devotion to duty, patriotism and steadfastness to act according to the best interests of the country so far as our Armed Forces are concerned. Our Armed Forces have demonstrated time and again their patriotism and their effectiveness to deal with difficult situations, whether we faced aggression from outside or even they were called upon to assist, according to the Constitution, the civil authorities

SHRI RABI RAY: That is what precisely Shri Jayaprakash Narayan wants.

श्री मोहिम् प्रकाश त्यागी : आपने एलाउ नहीं किया तो मंत्री जी जवाब क्यों दे रहे हैं ?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: in their relief operations and other measures of internal character, for example, in dealing with the situation that is prevailing in the eastern part of India. Any message or slogan given from any quarter whatsoever which in any way saps the moral or the loyalty of the members of the Armed Forces is something which is regrettable and I would appeal to all sections of the House not to bring in the Armed Forces

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It should be condemned by the House.

SHRI O. P. TYAGI: Have you allowed this question?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No.

SHRI O. P. TYAGI: Then why is he answering that part of the question?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister has not mentioned any name. He has replied in a general way. In a general way he can express what the Government is thinking about it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The hon. Minister is very right.

SHRI RABI RAY: This is the most irrelevant question . . . (Interruptions).

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: He is upset.

SHRI RABI RAY: I am not at all upset. But does it arise from this question?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I should also be allowed to add that I have confidence that any slogan . . . (Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not interrupt.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Any indication of any effort to undermine the morale and loyalty of the members of the Armed Forces is not likely to succeed because of the traditions of our army . . . (Interruptions).

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY: I would like to know from the Defence Minister in view of the fact that Prime Minister Bhutto is threatening that Pakistan will go nuclear, whether the Government has any information that China has agreed to supply nuclear weapons or that China has agreed to supply nuclear technology to manufacture nuclear weapons in Pakistan.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Sir, it is no doubt a fact that after our peaceful nuclear underground explosion, Prime Minister Bhutto has been making very angry and excited statements—and my colleague, Mr. Chavan, rightly points out that his statements have been extremely contradictory also. So, it is not easy to pinpoint any particular statement of Prime Minister Bhutto. At the same time, it is very unlikely that a country like China, which is a permanent member of the Security Council and has made several statements that China would not do anything to proliferate the technology about nu-

clear weapons, is likely to oblige even Pakistan notwithstanding the suppling attitude that Pakistan is now adopting.

श्री ओइम् प्रकाश त्यागी : मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आप का जानकारी है कि चाइना अपने हथियारों के साथ-साथ 1971 की लड़ाई के पश्चात, पाकिस्तान की हार के बाद में अपने सैनिक अधिकारियों को भी पाकिस्तान को भेज रहा है पाकिस्तान की फौज को रियार्ग-नाईज करने के लिए भारत के खिलाफ अपने एक्सपर्ट्स को वहाँ भेज रहा है या नहीं यदि भेज रहा है तो उस की प्रतिक्रिया यहाँ क्या है?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Sir, we have information that there is close cooperation between Pakistan and China. I won't be surprised if Pakistan is using the Chinese knowledge and expertise in the matter of strengthening their defences. It is quite possible.

श्री ओइम् प्रकाश त्यागी : आप को जानकारी है या नहीं ?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Sometimes it is not wise to say all that I know . . . (Interruptions).

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: The hon. Minister has been asked by several hon. Members to take up this issue with the U.N., Pakistan, China—and by Mr. Bhupesh Gupta implicitly, with Mr. Brezhnev . . . (Interruptions). I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would, in view of the developing situation, take up with an ordinary soul like the Prime Minister of India to urge her to recommend to the Cabinet, so that the Parliament may agree to India going in for nuclear weapons?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I do not think this circuitous process which he has indicated is at all necessary. The Government of India and

the Cabinet do not function in the manner that he imagines.

श्री रबी राय : सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इस बारे में आपने कोई रिसर्च की है कि जब हमारा 55 करोड़ का देश है और चीन 60 करोड़ का देश है और माननीय मंत्री जी मानेंगे कि हम अगस्त 47 में आजाद हुए और 48 में चीन में माओत्सुंग आये, करीब-करीब साथ-साथ ही आजाद हुए, तो क्या इस बारे में उन्होंने कोई खोज की है कि 28 साल पहले हम लोगों की मिलिटरी स्ट्रैन्थ चीन की मिलिटरी स्ट्रैन्थ से कितनी ज्यादा थी और मौजूदा स्थिति में वह कितना ज्यादा शक्तिशाली है और इस पृष्ठभूमि में मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जिस तरह से चीन पाकिस्तान को आर्म्स देने से धरता है तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आर्म्स के सिलसिले में हम कब तक आत्मनिर्भर बनेंगे और कब तक हम लोम चीन के स्तर

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Sir, the hon. Member is no doubt aware that as a result of the establishment of several undertakings, some in the public sector, and some others as departmental factories, our capacity to manufacture a vast proportion of our requirements of defence equipment is now indigenously met.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: In terms of percentage?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I will give you the percentage also if you put a separate question. But there are certain critical areas in which we still depend upon supplies from other countries. The objective which the hon. Member has indicated is very much before us and we are trying to achieve that, although our intention is not to go up to the level of any country whether it is China or any

other country. We have to look to our own essential defence requirements and have to organise our defence accordingly. It is not necessary for us to compete with any country.

श्री रबी राय : सभापति महोदय, मेरा सवाल था कि चीन ने हमारी एक लाख वर्गमील भूमि हड़प ली है। इस सिलसिले में खोज की जरूरत नहीं है हम से कितने गुना ज्यादा शक्तिशाली वह है? यह नहीं बता रहे हैं।

सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह : बिल्कुल बता रहा हूं कि इस किस्म के हिसाब से, अरिथमेटिक से उसका प्रपोर्शन निकालना कि उसकी ताकत कितनी गुना ज्यादा है, मिलिटरी असेसमेंट में अरिथमेटिक नहीं चलता। वह बहुत कंप्लेक्स सब्जेक्ट है।

It is not like two into two being equal to four.

Stevedore system at Calcutta Port

*92. SHRI B. K. MAHANTI:

SHRI KALYAN ROY:†

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of various malpractices by the stevedores in the Port of Calcutta;

(b) whether any investigations have been made in this regard;

(c) whether Government have taken steps to gradually abolish the stevedore system in this port; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Kalyan Roy.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI):

(a) and (b) Complaints regarding certain malpractices by the stevedores in Calcutta Port have been received from time to time. They have been looked into in consultation with the Calcutta Dock Labour Board and steps have been taken to enforce the Dock Labour Board Regulations.

(c) and (d) Suggestions for changing the existing stevedoring system in all the major ports including Calcutta have been received from time to time. A Committee is being appointed to undertake a comprehensive review of the existing decasualisation Schemes, working of the Stevedoring System and other allied matters. Further action would be taken in the light of this Committee's findings.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: This question came up on the 21st January, 1973 and Mr. Reddy, Labour Minister said that it was a matter of policy. These stevedores are a bunch of thugs and looters. They make no investment. They utilise the services of the ports. They have no factory. The labour registers are maintained by the Dock Labour Board. They make the appointments. Sir, the Minister is aware that the Commission on Major Ports observed that in Calcutta port, the majority of the stevedores seem to function as mere middlemen rather than stevedores. Further, this Commission stated in very categorical terms that "another aspect to which we would call attention relates to the employment of monthly paid workers by the stevedores which have not registered any increase over the years, especially in Calcutta." You will be surprised to know that these stevedores, according to the report of the Study Team of the International Association of Ports and Harbours, have a completely negative approach to modernised methods. They are unwilling to invest in equipment. The team further said that the continuance of the pre-