

P. O. Ws. INCIDENT IN M. P.

786. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some POWs turned violent in a camp in Madhya Pradesh on the 3rd October, 1972 ;

(b) whether enquiry has been conducted in the matter ; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The court of Inquiry have come to the conclusion that POWs in this camp tried to overwhelm Indian officers including a Brigadier and sentries. They attacked sentries and tried to snatch away their firearms. One of them succeeded in taking possession of a bayonet and some others already had sharp-edged weapons with them. The POWs injured three persons ; injuries were serious in the case of two sentries and minor in the case of an Indian officer. The escort had to open fire to control the situation and in self-defence. This resulted in injuries to 28 POWs which proved fatal in case of 8 POWs.

PRESIDENT BHUTTO'S REMARK ON THE SIMLA AGREEMENT

787. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Hindustan Times of the 3rd October, 1972, to the effect that President Bhutto has blamed India for not fulfilling the Simla Agreement ;

(b) if so, whether India have sought any clarification from the Pakistan Government and the reaction of the Pakistan Government thereto ;

(c) whether there is a deliberate attempt on the part of Pakistan to delay implementation of the Simla Agreement ; and

(d) how many recommendations of the Simla Agreement have been acted upon so far ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) Government have noticed President Bhutto's

reported statement with surprise since India has all along taken the initiative to implement the various provisions of the Simla Agreement. Government, however, did not consider it necessary to seek clarification from the Pakistan Government on a statement made to the press.

(c) Some delay has taken place on the delineation of the line of control in Jammu and Kashmir about which the Minister for External Affairs has made a full statement in the House on 14th November, 1972. Pakistan's continued non-recognition of Bangladesh has prevented progress on the question of repatriation of Pakistani POWs and civilian internees who surrendered to the Joint Indo-Bangladesh Command.

(d) Once the delineation of the line of control in Jammu and Kashmir is finalised, withdrawal of troops will follow and then other provisions of the Simla Agreement can be taken up for implementation.

INTERNATIONAL CONTROL COMMISSION

788. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN :
SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Canadian Delegation of the International Control Commission has charged that India and Poland were responsible for the long-standing paralysis of the commission on Indo-China, adding that the deteriorating relations between Saigon and Indian Government could not be blamed for the ICC's inability to fulfil its mandate ;

(b) if so, what was the precise charge levelled by the Canadian Delegation against India and Poland ; and

(c) what was Government's reaction thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Canadian charge specifically is that "other delegations (Namely Indian and Polish delegations) have for the past several years consistently refused to allow it (i.e. the Commission) to perform its prime responsibilities, the most important of which are the investigation of alleged violations of the agreement on the cessation of hostilities in Vietnam of 1954, the determination of their validity and their reporting as necessary to the co-Chairmen

while observing an attitude of strict impartiality towards all parties directly interested or involved."

(c) The Government is unable to accept the Canadian allegation. The so called "paralysis" of the I. C. C. was inherent in the situation as it had developed in Vietnam and neither India nor Poland could be held responsible for it.

IMPORT SUBSTITUTION FOR DEFENCE MATERIAL

789. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH :
SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had launched a fresh drive for accelerating import substitution in the manufacture of defence equipment, arms and ammunition required by defence forces ; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the programme and the progress made in the implementation thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) Special efforts continue to be made for accelerating import substitution in the manufacture of Defence equipments, arms and ammunition required by Defence forces.

(b) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT

Various types of equipments, arms and ammunition required by Defence Forces are manufactured indigenously in (i) Ordnance and Departmental factories (ii) Public Sector Undertakings under the aegis of Ministry of Defence and (iii) firms in private and public sectors.

2. *Ordnance and Departmental Factories.*—There are 28 Ordnance Factories and two Departmental Factories producing items required for Armed Forces.

2.1 One of the Departmental factories is producing Vijayanta tanks. Efforts are continuously being made to increase the indigenous content of the tank.

2.2 Some of the new items to be taken up for manufacture in the Ordnance factories are (i) Indian Field Gun in place of 25 pounder Gun, (ii) 9 mm self loading Pistol, (iii)

ammunition for imported equipment, (iv) New MMGs for infantry and tanks, (v) special steel of high specifications and (vi) propellants with the latest process of manufacture to meet the requirements of high calibre and sophisticated weapons and ammunition.

3. *Public Sector Undertakings.*—The following undertakings under the aegis of Ministry of Defence are manufacturing a variety of equipments required by Defence Services :—

(i) Bharat Electronics Ltd.

(ii) Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.

(iii) Bharat Earth Movers Ltd.

(iv) Bharat Dynamics Ltd.

(v) M/s. Mazagon Docks Ltd.

(vi) M/s. Garden Reach Workshops Ltd.

(vii) M/s. Goa Shipyards Ltd.

(viii) M/s. Praga Tools Ltd.

A special exercise was taken up recently in which these public sector undertakings were asked to prepare list of imported items of sub-assemblies components and raw materials in respect of each equipment being manufactured by them so that efforts could be made to develop indigenous sources for the same.

3.1 In regard to indigenisation of the imported materials, a Standing Committee was constituted in May, 1972 to review every quarter the progress made and lay down guidelines and priorities for indigenisation of those items which may be required expeditiously and bring to the notice of Government the difficulties that may be experienced in indigenisation of the materials. In the first meeting of the Standing Committee held on 12th September, 1972, it was decided that lists in respects of chemicals, plastics and refractories would be examined by Director, NCL and those relating to ferrous and non-ferrous items would be examined by Director, DMRL. It also emerged in the meeting that a large number of chemicals required by the Ordnance Factories had since been indigenised. Further exhaustive lists of chemicals are being prepared which are still being imported so that their indigenous sources could also be located. Similarly, in the case of ferrous and non-ferrous items. DGOF has requested all the Ordnance Factories to analyse the lists of hitherto imported items and indicate items which are still being imported. It is expected that after the receipt of the information, a