

श्री नगेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : श्रीमन, मेरा सवाल बड़ा साफ है । इसी एड के बहाने अमरीका सारा हथियार देता है पाकिस्तान को, कभी सीधे देता है, कभी टर्की के जरिये, ईरान के जरिये देता है । आपको अनुभव हो चुका है कि उसके बादे सब झूठे होते हैं । आपने यह भी देख लिया कि अमरीका यहां तक आता है कि रूस और चीन के हथियारों को रोकता है वियतनाम में जाने से, तो क्या आप इस बात को साफ-साफ कहेंगे कि हमको भी मजबूर होकर आपकी नीति अख्तियार करनी पड़ेगी ?

सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह : क्या करना पड़ेगा ?

श्री नगेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : अगर अमरीका हथियार देता है पाकिस्तान को तो उन हथियारों का पाकिस्तान में आना रोकना पड़ेगा ।

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: In view of the fact that as the hon. Minister has stated America's assurances cannot be relied upon, would the Government of India care to advise the Government of the Soviet Union also in respect of the unreliability of American assurances and promises particularly because the Soviet Government also has been a victim of the fallacy of trying to wean away Pakistan from China through a supply of arms? Since Russia also, Mr. Brezhnev and Mr. Kosygin also, have been victims of this fallacy, may I know whether the Government of India would like to give the benefit of our experience to the Russians in this matter?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I think it is better that Dr. Bhai Mahavir settles it with Mr. Bhupesh Gupta.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Why should I be there? The Rajmata is there.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Sir, I would like to clarify that it is not a "Bahana", as he put it, that they give aid under any pretext. They definitely give

arms aid free of charging any price to Pakistan. They did it openly after the so-called mutual defence aid agreement between Pakistan and the United States of America. Even at that time we did not believe that this would not be used against India, which later on turned out to be absolutely incorrect. So I do not know what is bothering the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Bhai Mahavir.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Never was the assurance given in writing. It has never appeared in any document.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: The assurance contained in a letter. I would only like to add that, even if it were not given in writing, they do not deny that an assurance was given.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Charming talk. You went to America and the American people told you this is what you tell us in Parliament.

#### PROMOTION OF AN OFFICER IN DURGAPUR STEEL PLANT

\*387. SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE:

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE :t

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state whether it is a fact that an Officer of the Durgapur Steel Plant was promoted twice on the 15th April, 1972; and if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMAR-AMANGALAM): No, Sir.

tThe question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister in connection with this question that a report to this effect was published in two Calcutta dailies on 18.4.1972, and a question on the issue of that report was also tabled in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly in reply to which the Labour Minister of the West Bengal Government said that the matter would be taken up with the Hindustan Steel and facts would be laid on the Table of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly. Later on two editorials were published subsequently in a Calcutta daily. May I know whether the attention of the Hindustan Steel authorities was drawn to this fact, whether they issued any rejoinder denying to the effect that the news which came out in the press was absolutely false as the Minister is saying, whether any such rejoinder was issued or not ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM : The news that appeared in the press in Bengal and the editorials that appeared in certain newspapers were unfortunately based on a misconception of the facts. The facts very far back as February 1972 a decision was taken by the Board of Hindustan Steel that those who have been occupying the posts of Private Secretaries to General Managers or Directors should be given an opportunity of training and lateral transfer because vertical promotions in the grade of Private Secretaries are not available. In this particular case which the hon. Member has mentioned namely, promotion of the Private Secretary to the General Manager of the Durgapur steel plant, he was in the grade Rs. 550—i.e. for 3 1/2 years. He was transferred to the Personnel Department laterally, which is no promotion at all, and he was only promoted to an officiating position in that particular Department strictly according to the seniority to which he is entitled, and whether he will occupy this position finally or not will be dependent on the

usual procedure of the Departmental Promotion Committee being followed. So, there was no question of a double promotion on a single day or of any injustice being done contrary to the rules at present in operation in Hindustan Steel.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether on the same day out of 23 promotions 17 promotions took place in the Personnel Department alone and in that connection I would like to know from the hon. Minister further whether it is a fact that so long the practice in all steel plants has been to appoint an officer of the State Government as Chief Personnel Officer in the steel projects. Only in Durgapur this practice has been discontinued after appointing an officer of the State Government for many years there. Recently that practice has been given up although the same practice is followed in other steel plants.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM : So far as the question of promotions inside the Personnel Department is concerned, it is true that a number of promotions were made on the same day. That was because the reorganisation of the personnel Department in Durgapur had been under consideration by the management of the Board of Hindustan Steel for quite some time and after a decision was taken about such a reorganisation, naturally the promotions were made on the same day in pursuance of that decision. So far as the question of the appointment of an officer of the State Government as Chief Personnel Officer is concerned, the Board of Hindustan Steel has taken a decision, not only in relation to Durgapur but in relation to all the plants of Hindustan Steel also, that the Chief Personnel Officer should be an officer who is qualified in personnel management and therefore, a person taken from the State Government,

from the Indian Administrative Service or from the Provincial Service would not necessarily be suitable for such a post. They have decided that so far as liaison with the State Government is concerned, in the management of administration and the management even of recruitment where the interests of the local people have to be sufficiently safeguarded, it would be useful to have an officer of liaison on deputation from the State Government but for the work of looking after personnel management, it would be more effective and more useful to have a person who is qualified in that particular sphere of work.

SHRI KALYAN ROY : The matter is serious in Hindustan Steel. I think the Minister would agree that officers are being appointed and recruited very arbitrarily. I want to know whether there is any permanent selection board or any standing selection board under the Hindustan Steel to recruit. My fact is that there is no permanent selection board or no standing selection board in Hindustan Steel and that officers get together and recruit people whomsoever they like and there is no procedure either.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : I entirely repudiate the insinuation of the hon. Member that arbitrary selection of this character has been done in Hindustan Steel. There are no permanent selection boards and I do not think that it is proper to have such permanent selection boards which are sometimes more liable for approach than non-permanent selection boards. Selection boards are there, they are set up strictly according to the rules which are in operation in that organisation, and I have no reason to believe that arbitrary selections are made. And since the hon. Member asked me whether I agree with him, I must say that I do not.

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI : Do I understand from the statement of the hon.

Minister just now made that in order to become a Chief Personnel Officer he must have an adequate personnel management qualification? Has this been followed in the Rourkela Steel Plant where an appointment has been made very recently?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : May I request the hon. Member to put a separate question ? We have to travel from Durgapur to Rourkela.

DR. R.K. CHAKRABARTI : It is regarding qualification.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : I have not got the exact details with me and I ain willing to give them even immediately afterwards. But it will not be proper for me to speak from memory on a matter like this.

#### TALKS HELD WITH SOVIET PRESIDENT

\*388. SHRI CHANDRAMOULI JAGARLAMUDI :

SHRI K.C. PANDA : SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether *UK* Government of India recently had talks with the Soviet President, Mr. Podgorny regarding developments in Vietnam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SARDARSWARAN SINGH) : (a) and (b) : A Soviet delegation led by President Podgorny had made a transit stop-over in Calcutta on June 14, 1972 *en route* to Hanoi. The Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh and Shri D.P. Dhar, the then Chairman of the Policy Planning Coram:-: lee of the External Affairs

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri K.C. Panda.