

ANNUAL REPORT (1969-70) OF THE EXPORT
INSPECTION COUNCIL AND AGENCIES TOGETHER
WITH THE AUDITED ACCOUNTS

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE/ **विदेश**
व्यापार मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (SHRI A. C.
GEORGE) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a
copy (in English and Hindi) of the Annual
Report of the Export Inspection Council and
Agencies for the year 1969-70, together with the
Audited Accounts. [Placed in Library. See No.
LT—182/71]

MESSAGES FROM THE LOK SABHA

NOMINATION OF RAJYA SABHA MEMBERS TO THE
PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE AND THE
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDER TAKINGS

SECRETARY : Sir, I have to report to the
House the following messages received from the
Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary of the Lok
Sabha :—

(I)

“I am directed to inform Rajya Sabha that
Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on Wednesday,
the 26th May, 1971, adopted the following
motion :—

“That this House do recommend to Rajya
Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nomi-
nate seven members from Rajya Sabha to
associate with the Committee on Public
Accounts of the House for the term ending
on the 30th April, 1972, and do communicate
to this House the names of the members so
nominated by Rajya Sabha.”

I am to request that the concurrence of Rajya
Sabha in the said motion, and also the names
of the members of Rajya Sabha so nominated,
may be communicated to this House.”

(II)

“I am directed to inform Rajya Sabha that
the Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on Wednes-
day, the 26th May, 1971, adopted the following
motion :

“That this House do recommend to Rajya
Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nomi-
nate five members from Rajya Sabha to asso-
ciate with the Committee on public under-
takings of the House for the term ending

on the 30th April, 1972, and do communi-
cate to this House the names of the members
so nominated by Rajya Sabha.”

I am to request that the concurrence of Rajya
Sabha in the said motion, and also the names
of members of Rajya Sabha so nominated, may
be communicated to this House.”

**RE. ALLEGED ANTI-NATIONAL ACTIVI-
TIES OF CERTAIN MINISTERS, AND AN
M. P. OF WEST BENGAL**

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa) : Sir,
with your kind permission I would like to bring
to your notice a very disturbing news that has
appeared in yesterday's Hindustan Standard for
the information of the hon. Members in this
House and more particularly for the informa-
tion of the Governments. The Hindustan Stan-
dard of 26th May has published this :

“A Minister in the United Front Ministry
used to hand over strictly confidential files to
the Pakistan Government.”

The second sentence is :

“A well-known MP of this State received
money from Pakistan for acting as its agent.”

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Did you
mention M.P. ?

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : I am not
mentioning.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL : It is printed
in the Hindustan Standard. He is not
mentioning.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : The third
sentence is :

“Going back a few years, a Congress Deputy
Minister would hang about top party leaders
to collect information for the Pakistani intelli-
gence department.”

All these are from sources which are very
authentic. As the Government of India has
seized some documents from a spy-ring which
was functioning in Calcutta, they have come
into possession of these informations. This
newspaper reporter says that he has collected
information from sources which belong to
Government of India sources.

Now, Sir, since three top men are involved in this, who should be otherwise called traitors, who should be hanged if necessary for passing on information when they have access to these informations at the highest level and who are acting against the interests of this country. I would like the Government of India or their spokesmen here to come out with the names of these three persons. I demand that they be immediately arrested and their names communicated both to this House and to the other House so that we know who these traitors are who are functioning in the guise of either a Minister in the United Front or a Deputy Minister in the Congress Government or as an M. P. in either of the Houses of Parliament.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : He says that Rs. 10,000 was given for running the election.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Even somebody might take Rs. 10,000 from Pakistan intelligence to run for an election to the Rajya Sabha. A man who can be so unscrupulous as to accept money from foreign intelligence can also be unscrupulous here. Let the Government come out with a statement on this. This is important because this affects the security of the country. Secondly, this affects the prestige of a Member of Parliament and Ministers in a State Government. Therefore, it should be the duty of the Government of India to come out with a statement categorically specifying those persons who are involved in this and arresting them immediately.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra) : Sir, I have taken your permission. I think Mr. Misra referred to the same matter. This matter is a very serious matter. I join Mr. Misra because this is a matter connected with the security of the country and it has to be dealt with at the highest level. I demand actually that those names should not only be published but they should be immediately hauled up as traitors to this country.

Along with this I would also mention here that today there is also news that one IAF officer has been arrested for passing on certain secret document to them. An IAF officer has been arrested. These are matters involving the security of this country. They are to be dealt with very seriously. I request that it is not a party matter. This is a matter for the

whole nation. So I request the Government that they should not stand on prestige but immediately come out with information to satisfy the public.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Mehta, do you wish to say anything ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT/संसदीय कार्य विभाग तथा नौवहन और परिवहन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI OM MEHTA) : I will bring it to the notice of the Government and they will try to find out the real facts.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : I would like to say this. Some of the Bengali papers have also reported apart from the Hindustan Standard; some language papers have also given a more detailed account of what has been reported here. I think it is a serious matter. It has been brought to the notice of the Government not only on the floor of the House but also through the press already.

I P. M.

I think the Government should make a statement on the subject. Let us know what exactly is the matter, whether there is any truth in it, in the report as it has appeared, or whether it is a concoction. Sir, it is very important. And now several papers have published this story without giving names or particulars but sufficient indications are there that a Minister has been mentioned, an MP...

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Communist Party member has been mentioned.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : No, Sir, No party member has been mentioned in that way. If you want to add to the story, you can do so. But that will become a concoction. What I am saying is, he has referred to very serious points. He has read it, he has said what has appeared in the paper. He has not given his personal opinion. Since it has appeared in the paper—I am also adding to it by saying that it has also appeared in some language papers in West Bengal—I think the matter is very serious and the Government should give a clear answer on the subject.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Om Mehta has made the position very clear. Let us see what the Government has to say on the points raised. It is lunch time. The House stands adjourned till 2.00 p. m.

The House adjourned for lunch at two minutes past one of the clock.

2 P. M.

The House reassembled after lunch at two of the clock. THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN) in the Chair.

THE MEDICAL TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY BILL, 1969—Contd.

SHRI A. D. MANI (Madhya Pradesh) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I want to congratulate the Joint Committee as well as the Government for formulating this Medical Termination of Pregnancy Bill. Unfortunately, this Bill has not received the publicity that it deserves. In other developed countries in the world, an issue of this kind would have been publicised in a very extensive form in all newspapers. But here we have had only scant notice for the provisions of this Bill.

Sir, I am in general agreement with this Bill, with reservations on certain clauses. I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to clause 3, Explanation II, where it is laid down :

“Where any pregnancy occurs as a result of failure of any device or method used by any married woman or her husband for the purpose of limiting the number of children, the anguish caused by such unwanted pregnancy may be presumed to constitute a grave injury to the mental health of the pregnant woman.”

You see, Sir, that in this clause there is reference only to the husband and the woman. In other words, from my reading of this Bill, this Bill is confined only to the married persons. We have got to take into account the plight of the unmarried mothers also who might have been led astray.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI (Uttar Pradesh) : How can an unmarried woman have pregnancy ?

SHRI A. D. MANI : Because it is a natural human function. I feel that if we are going to be progressive in this matter and we are going to give this privilege to married women, we should also take into account the cases of the unmarried mothers. I have got very good ground for saying that their plight should be considered because in clause 3 of the Bill it is stated :

“If the registered medical practitioner feels that the continuance of the pregnancy would involve a risk to the life of the pregnant woman or of grave injury to her physical or mental health”, the pregnancy may be terminated.

If it is a question of mental health, is it only of the married persons ? This is a very serious lacuna in the Bill. While we are trying to go forward we are also halting back. If some girls have been led astray and they become unmarried mothers and they feel that their career would be ruined and they would be held objects of shame, the State should give some support to the persons concerned. One of the Members who spoke from this side yesterday said that in the Soviet Union there is no illegitimacy at all because even an illegitimate child is taken care of by the State. I feel that the Government should have some rethinking done on this subject and go forward with the implications of Clause 3 of this Bill and try to bring an amending Bill giving this benefit to the unmarried mothers also.

I would like to go on to Clause 4 of the Bill which says—

“No termination of pregnancy shall be made in accordance with this Act at any place other than—

(a) a hospital established or maintained by Government, or

(b) a place for the time being approved for the purpose of this Act by Government”.

Under sub-clause (b)—a place for the time being approved—there is likely to be widespread abuse of the facility given. I feel that if any abortion is to be performed, it must be performed only in a hospital maintained by the Government. In this connection I would like to draw the attention of the honourable Minister to the practice prevailing in teq