

(b) In each Ministry/Department, a senior Officer, of the rank of Joint Secretary has been made responsible for ensuring implementation of these orders. Quarterly progress reports have been prescribed to be furnished by each Ministry/Department to the Ministry of Home Affairs where these are to be scrutinised and follow up action taken where necessary.

(c) Steps to implement these directions are to be taken soon after these are received in various Ministries/ Departments.

PLYING OF D.T.U. BUSES WITHOUT ROUTE NUMBER

217. SHRI B. C. PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that D.T.U. buses plying in Delhi do not bear properly the route number and destination boards particularly in the night causing inconvenience to Delhi's bus-users ; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government with- regard to these complaints ?

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (PROF. V.K.R.V. RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Delhi Transport Undertaking has reported that some complaints have been received by it in this regard.

(b) AU efforts are being made by the Delhi Transport Undertaking to ensure that destination boards and route numbers are properly displayed in the buses, particularly at night.

12 NOON

RE CONTINUANCE OF QUESTIONS

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, यह 65 वां क्वेश्चन है और इसमें 21 नाम हैं। आप 8 नाम तक पहुंचे हैं। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या इस संबंध में कोई ऐसी व्यवस्था है कि जिन लोगों को क्वेश्चन करने का समय नहीं मिला है, उन्हें इस संबंध में क्वेश्चन करने की सुविधा दी जायगी ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, No.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, मैं आप से फिर निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि जब कोई क्वेश्चन शुरू कर दिया गया हो, जिसमें 21 नाम हैं, और 8 नाम तक ही पहुंचा गया हो, तो भी बाकी नाम छूट जाते हैं उन्हें साधु संसदीय प्रथा के मुताबिक सवाल करने देना चाहिये और उस सवाल को कांटेन्यू किया जाना चाहिये।

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, I am sorry.

SHRI A. D. MANI : Under what rule ?

श्री राजनारायण : यह साधु बुद्धि और नियम के मुताबिक है और कामनसेन्स कहता है कि आप इस बात पर विचार करें। मैं आप से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि आप अभी इस संबंध में रुकिए न दें, आप पहले अपने सेक्रेटेरियट से इस संबंध में मालूम कर लें कि वर्ल्ड में जहाँ कहीं भी संसदीय प्रथा है, वहाँ पर इस तरह के प्रश्न आये हैं या नहीं ?

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED EXPULSION FROM INDIA OF THREE RUSSIAN EXPERTS ATTACHED TO THE OIL AND NATURAL GAS COMMISSION AT DEHRA DUN AS BEING SECURITY RISKS

SHRI M. K. MOHTA (Rajasthan) : Sir, I rise to call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the reported expulsion from India of three Russian experts attached to the Oil and Natural Gas Commission at Dehra Dun as being security risks.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : Sir, the reference in the motion, is, presumably, to the report which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of the 19th November 1968 under the heading "Three Russians in ONGC expelled".

Mr. Lovoroshkov and Mr. Nomoko-nov were Russian Experts assigned to the Research and Training Institute of the ONGC which is being run as a joint project of the Government of

[Shri Vidya Charan Shukla]

India and the United Nations Development Programme. They have left India along with certain other experts on the expiry of their terms of assignment. Mr. Popov was a Soviet Specialist working for the ONGC who returned to his country over a year ago. There is no truth in the report that they were expelled.

There is also no truth in the report that one of the Russian experts had stolen a classified map of Assam or that the Russians had exploited their position as experts to obtain classified data by improper methods. According to the information available with Government none of these persons was arrested nor was the question of the arrest of any of them under consideration at any time.

It is also not correct that some technicians working at the headquarters of the ONGC at Dehradun have been dispersed to project sites in Assam and Gujarat because of friction between Indian and Russian technicians. The correct position is that some high level experts were transferred recently from Dehradun to the western and eastern regions with a view to enabling the regional authorities to take technical decisions promptly without reference to headquarters.

It will be seen that there is no factual basis for the report in the Press.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : The reply of the hon. Minister comes as a sort of relief but the fundamental question of the security of the country remains. This is not an isolated incident, even though it has been said to be incorrect. We have had cases in the past, the case of Mr. Yuri Modin of KGB, who was working in the Soviet Embassy under an assumed name. There is the case of the Moscow Radio broadcasts. There is the case of several other Russian employees of the Russian Embassy who were expelled from the country in connection with the case of Capt. G. D. Prasad and others. I would like to ask the Government as to how many Russian nationals, whether employed in the Embassy or in any one of the several industrial projects or projects such as the Institute of Russian Studies, have been expelled in the past and how many of them were found to be KGB men ; what screening arrangement the Government got to enquire into the antecedents of Russian nationals

proposed to be sent to India to ensure that they will not be prejudicial to the security of the country. Also, would the Government assure the House that it would put a stop to the growing dependence on Russia in all the strategic sectors such as arms and ammunition, heavy industries, aircraft, etc. ?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : Do you think all this is relevant and arises out of the calling attention motion ?

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL (Gujarat) : It is not more irrelevant than the remarks which Mr. Bhupesh Gupta always makes.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : I do not have the precise figures about the Russian experts and technicians working in the various projects in the country and I do not have any information at present as to whether any of these Russian experts were expelled. If a separate notice is given, I will look into the matter. As far as the question of screening is concerned, in respect of all the foreign personnel who come to India, there is a certain system, not necessarily for Russian experts only. It is for all the foreigners who come to India. We do that from a certain angle and we try to see that when they come to India they only do the job for which they come to India and do not indulge in anything which is anti-national.

SHRI PITAMBER DAS (Uttar Pradesh) : I would like to know what was the term of appointment or the scheduled term of their stay in India and whether these two or three Russians went back before completing that term.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : I do not know what was their exact period. I have stated in my main answer that they finished their stipulated period with the United Nations. They were assigned here for a stipulated period and after finishing their stipulated period they have returned. It is not as if either their period was extended or their period was reduced. They have gone back after their stipulated period.

श्री प्रेम मनोहर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमान्, इंडियन एमोबिलाइजेशन आफ पेट्रोलियम माइनिंग एंड टेक्नीशियन्स वर्कर्स ने ओ० एन० जी० सी० और मिनिस्ट्री आफ पेट्रोलियम एंड कैमिकल्स को इस प्रकार का कोई पत्र दिया था

जिसमें लिखा था कि रशियन्स साइन्टिस्टों के अन्तर्गत इंडियन साइन्टिस्टों को काम करने के लिए न कहा जाय क्योंकि अधिकतर लोग इसमें जो रशियन्स एक्सपर्ट के नाम से आते हैं वे यहाँ केवल भेद लेने के लिए आते हैं और एक्सपर्ट का काम करना नहीं आता है। यह तो मेरा पहिला सवाल है।

दूसरा प्रश्न मेरा यह है कि जो तीन रशियन्स एक्सपर्ट आये थे, उन्होंने जो भी रिसर्च का काम किया, उसका कोई मूल्यांकन किया गया या नहीं किया गया। क्या इस प्रकार की कोई अपने यहाँ व्यवस्था है या नहीं है कि जो फारेनर यहाँ एक्सपर्ट के नाम से आते हैं, वे वास्तव में कुछ काम करते हैं या केवल हमारा भेद लेने के लिए ही आते हैं।

श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल : इस तरह का एक पत्र कुछ हिन्दुस्तानी कर्मचारियों ने जरूर लिखा था जिसमें उन्होंने वहाँ पर जो रशियन्स एक्सपर्ट थे उनके काम या उनके वहाँ वापसी के बारे में आपत्ति की थी। पर इसके बारे में जांच पड़ताल की गई और उनकी आपत्ति बेबुनियाद और गलत पाई गई और इसीलिए उस पर कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की गई।

जहाँ तक रशियन एक्सपर्ट्स का सवाल है, मैं उनके काम के बारे में नहीं कह सकता हूँ क्योंकि यह काम गृह मंत्रालय के मातहत नहीं आता है कि वे अच्छा काम कर रहे हैं या नहीं कर रहे हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि चूंकि वे चुने हुए अच्छे जाने माने एक्सपर्ट लोग हैं, इसलिए काम जरूर अच्छा किया होगा। उनके काम के बारे में शिकायत है या नहीं, यह मुझे मालूम नहीं है।

जहाँ तक नम्बर का सवाल है, 17 एक्सपर्ट इस काम के लिए आये थे और 17 रशियन्स एक्सपर्ट में से 12 अपना टर्म खत्म करके वापस चले गये हैं।

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR (Delhi) : The hon. Minister has stated that at no time there was any consideration of any of these experts being proceeded against or being arrested. But may I

know if at any stage there was any enquiry conducted by the Home Ministry or by the C.B.I, the Lucknow Branch in particular, into any of these activities being indulged in by these experts ? Because whether they were considered to be proper persons to be proceeded against by the police, that may come as a result of the enquiry if that enquiry finds something substantial against them. But was there any enquiry at all? Secondly, I would like to know this. What he stated as truth is not always unconditioned by our political attachments and our political alignments. We are sometimes caught on the wrong foot. I may recall that once the Pakistan Government took action against our diplomatic personnel, and one or two days later ^{we also} took similar action against some of their people whom we charged, with spying. That fact did not come to us on the same day. Although we believe in "Satyameva Jayate", we keep that "Satyameva Jayate" in cold storage for some time till such an occasion comes when we are charged with similar accusation by other countries and then we come up with our own action. Will the hon. Minister be able to state categorically that there is no political pressure or no political consideration in this denial and what he is stating is pure and simple truth and nothing but the truth ?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA :

I have already indicated that on the complaint made by certain Indian employees that matter was looked into. I do not know what was the agency which looked into it at present, but that was looked into, and it was found to be false and baseless. As far as a categorical statement is concerned, I have made a categorical statement and I would repeat it again categorically that there is no political consideration and there is no pressure in making the statement that this is nothing but the truth.

SHRI G. RAMACHANDRAN

(Nominated) : A suggestion was made at some stage by a Member on my right that the antecedents of the experts who come to our country should be checked up. I waited for an answer from the Minister that it is none of his business to check up the antecedents of experts whom we invite to come and

[Shri G. Ramachandran] help us excepting they secure certain undertakings of good conduct here and they are fit for the job. If we are beginning to check up the antecedents of experts, we might as well check up the antecedents of many others, and it would be a most dangerous situation. Will the Minister give a categorical answer that it is none of his business to check up all the antecedents of experts whom we invite ?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA :

It is very much our business to check up the antecedents of any foreigner who comes into India and this work is normally done by our Missions abroad. It is not that anybody's bona fides are doubted or anybody is considered to be a person dangerous to our security. It is a routine that every nation all over the world will do. If anybody is coming in not as a tourist but for working here, there is a normal checkup which is done before the working visa or essential visa is granted. That is a thing in which the antecedents are checked in a normal manner. It is not that the experts who are invited here will be brought in here without any check-up whatsoever.

SHRI A. D. MANI (Madhya Pradesh) : Is the Minister aware that there has been a growing influx of Russians, so-called technical personnel, in the country and in the Heavy Engineering Corporation at Ranchi, which is under the control and Chairmanship of Mr. K. D. Malaviya, as many as 107 Russian employees are working ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Does that arise out of this ?

SHRI A. D. MANI : I want to raise a general question. Recently 42 new employees from Russia have come in as technical personnel. Does Government try to find out the justification for bringing in the foreign personnel ? If Indians are here who are technically competent, who are good engineers, why should more Russian personnel be imported into the Heavy Engineering Corporation at Ranchi? *(Interruption.)* I am against Americans, I am against Russians in view of what has happened in Czechoslovakia.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : The necessity or the desirability of having a particular number of technicians or not is examined by the administrative Ministry concerned. I presume

that whenever any technician is allowed to come in for a particular job, it is carefully scrutinised to see whether his presence or his work is required here or not. As far as the Russian technicians are concerned, by and large they have been doing excellent work in our country.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE (West Bengal) : The hon. Minister said that whenever any foreigner comes, expert or otherwise, for a certain prolonged stay in India, they look at the foreigner from a certain angle. That is quite understandable. One question I am asking with the permission of the Chair, and I think that arises from this. Does the Home Ministry keep any track on the movements of Mr. McNamara in India, who is more interested in visiting private business and creating a liaison between America and private business in India than in helping the public sector projects in India ?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : Sir, does it require any reply ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Bhupesh Gupta.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, I would invite your attention to the exact wording of the calling attention notice, "reported expulsion". I know the report is based on—and the Minister has said that—what appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' which is notoriously well known for its anti-Sovietism. May I know from the Government whether after having seen this report in the Hindustan Times the Government wrote any letter to the Editor of the 'Hindustan Times' to find out, in view of the national importance of the news, what was the basis on which they published such a thing ? Secondly, I should like to know whether before publishing such news—they did not, but I would like to know—the 'Hindustan Times' Editor enquired from the Government of India whether the Government of India had expelled any such Russians. It is surprising that the Editor of a leading newspaper in our country functioning in Delhi publishes a news with regard to the expulsion by the Government of India of some Russians coming here for friendly work and for helping us in industrial and other development. Yet the Editor did not consult the Government. In view of this thing, I should like to know whether it has occurred to the Government that the 'Hindustan Times' was interested in

spreading a deliberate, criminal lie with a view to disturbing the relations between India and the Soviet Union maligning the Soviet Union and providing weapons in the hands of the vociferous anti-Soviet lobby, whether it is Parliament or elsewhere. I should like him to give a clear answer in view of such things because this is not so simple as that, The 'Hindustan Times' knew what it was writing. When it did not consult the Government, did not enquire from the Government, it was bent on telling a manufactured lie with a view to grinding some political axe. In view of such perversity, mendacity on the part of a leading journal of our country I should like to know what steps the Government proposes to take in a matter of this kind. I should like to know (1) whether after such a thing the Government has decided to stop giving advertisements to the 'Hindustan Times'; (2) whether the Government has decided not to release newsprint quota to it; (3) whether the Government has decided not to keep any member of the 'Hindustan Times', Editor or others, on any Committees connected with journalism; (4) whether the Government has written to the Press Council of India—it is a relevant question—that the matter should be taken up and that publication of this sort of news should be taken care of. I am surprised at this kind of news appearing. The Soviet Union is helping you when others are letting you down. This backward Birla paper, if they are to malign the Soviet Union in this manner, it gives provocation. An hon. friend here comes with a question.

I should like Mr. Shukla and the Home Minister of the country kindly to state the position clearly. He should see the political motivation behind the publication of the report and also behind the question that is posed by a deliberately false report. I do not say that the Swatantra Party and the editor of the 'Hindustan Times' acted together as part of the conspiracy but they go together. Birds of the same feather flock together. They are flock-ins together. Kindly elucidate the point.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव (बिहार): श्रीमन् जो इन्होंने कहा उसमें एक तथ्य यह और जोड़ दिया जाय कि हिंदुस्तान में जो पत्र रूस का प्रचार न करे उनको भारत सरकार कोई सुविधा प्रदान न करे।

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : I am not here to comment on the conduct of the Press in the country nor on any newspaper.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: This particular newspaper is an anti-Soviet paper; it is reactionary monopolistic, Birla-owned.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : We know that in various newspapers various reports are printed which are not necessarily true and good many reports in the Press have no basis sometimes. We cannot go on taking cognizance of such reports. They may have motives undoubtedly, good or bad, and I am not going into all that. But if the Government went into all these news items which are printed, which are false sometimes, then there would be no end to our trouble with the Press. And since we have a free Press here, they have also the freedom ...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : To misbehave ?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : Yes, they have the freedom to misbehave, to print lies and do anything like that. But we do not propose to take any action.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, my question should be answered. I asked him whether the editor of the 'Hindustan Times' enquired from the Home Ministry before publication, as to whether the report in his possession is correct. He should answer that question.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : I have consulted my colleague, Mr. Raghuramaiah who is in charge of Petroleum and Chemicals and he tells me that as far as he is aware no such consultation was made with his Ministry by any of the persons from the 'Hindustan Times'; nor have they verified from us.

श्री राजनारायण (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमन्, पहले तो मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि जो हमारे पास हिन्दी में ध्यान आकर्षण का प्रस्ताव है उसको उन्होंने पढ़ा है या बिना पढ़े ही उन्होंने उसका उत्तर दे दिया है। मैं उसको पढ़े देता हूँ :

[श्री राजनारायण]

“देहरादून स्थित तेल तथा प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग में सम्बद्ध तीन रूसी विशेषज्ञों के सुरक्षा के लिए खतरा होने के कारण भारत में कथित निष्कासन की ओर गृह-कार्य मंत्री का ध्यान दिलायेने।”

इसका अर्थ यह है कि तीन रूसी विशेषज्ञों की सुरक्षा के लिये खतरा है। तीन रूसी विशेषज्ञों की सुरक्षा के लिये क्या खतरा पैदा हुआ था। (Interuptio:-) “तीन रूसी विशेषज्ञों की सुरक्षा के लिये खतरा” इसका मतलब क्या है। जो हम को हिन्दी में अर्जेंडा दिया गया है उसमें यह लिखा जाना चाहिये था कि तीन रूसी विशेषज्ञों के द्वारा राष्ट्र की सुरक्षा के लिये जो खतरा उत्पन्न हुआ है उससे उनका निष्कासन हुआ है।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : हिन्दी जानने वाले जो राज्य सभा के अधिकारी हैं वे ऐसी हिन्दी जानते हैं कि रोज ऐसी गलतियाँ होती हैं।

श्री राजनारायण : इसलिये मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हिन्दी के साथ भ्रमण नहीं होना चाहिये। इसके लिये आप को अपने सेक्रेटेरिएट में किसी अच्छे हिन्दी जानने वाले को रखना चाहिए जो ठीक तरह से हिन्दी में अनुवाद करे। जैसे हम हिन्दी नहीं जानते हैं, हम हिन्दी में से देख कर समझ ही नहीं पाये कि हम क्या पूछें। मगर जब मंत्री जी का जवाब आया तो अब मैं पूछ रहा हूँ।

अब मेरा एक यह निवेदन है कि इस सदन में श्री महेन्द्र कुमार मोहता का प्रस्ताव जिन के नाम से आया है उनकी भावनाओं को, सदन की भावनाओं को और श्री भूपेश गुप्त की भावनाओं को मटे नजर रखते हुये क्या मंत्री जी अपनी अब तक चरती जाने वाली नीति में परिवर्तन करने के लिये तैयार हैं जिस से देश की सुरक्षा के लिये खतरा न रूसी विशेषज्ञों के द्वारा हो और न अमरीका विशेषज्ञों के द्वारा हो। श्रीमन्, एक जगह नहीं, हर जगह जहाँ जहाँ विदेशी विशेषज्ञ आज हैं, हम को यह शिकायत मिलती है और हर जगह हमारे इंजीनियर या विशेषज्ञ हमसे बराबर यह कहते हैं कि चाहे

रूसी विशेषज्ञ हों, चाहे अमरीकी विशेषज्ञ हों, हम उनसे ज्यादा जानते हैं लेकिन हम को उनके मातहत रखा जाता है। इसलिए मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार ऐसी नीति अपनाने पर विचार करेगी जिससे विदेशी विशेषज्ञ जहाँ नितान्त आवश्यक हो वहीं सीमित संख्या में रखे जायें और उनकी गतिविधियों पर इतना अंकुश रखा जाय जिससे राष्ट्र की सुरक्षा को कोई खतरा उत्पन्न न हो और हमारे विशेषज्ञों की बुद्धि का विकास भी हो सके।

श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल : आपने जो मुझाव दिया है उसपर विचार किया जा सकता है।

SHRI B.K.P. SINHA (Bihar) : Sir, I was surprised at the answer of the hon. Minister to the supplementary of Mr. Bhupesh Gupta that this is a free country with a free Press and that therefore the Press has every freedom to put in false, tendentious and mischievous news.

SHRI A. D. MANI : Fundamental rights ?

SHRI B.K.P. SINHA : Fundamental rights ?

I would like to know what is the conception of the hon. Minister of 'freedom of the Press'. Is he aware that of late, a tendency has grown amongst the Indian newspapers ? And I am sorry to mention that, except the Hindu of Madras and, to some extent, the National Herald in Delhi, some of the Indian newspapers are Russian bulletins, some are American bulletins and some are English bulletins. And these newspapers of late have adopted a policy of giving out false, mischievous and tendentious news to create differences between this country and the other friendly powers and to create disaffection against a friendly power is a crime under the Indian law. I do not know why, under these circumstances, the Minister takes up this attitude that the Indian Press has every freedom to create mischief and problems for this country. Why are not such matters referred to the Press Council of India ? What is the Press Council of India doing ? Why was it formed if it cannot take notice of these false and tendentious news by Russian, American and British bulletins ?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : It is not for me to defend the concept of the freedom of the Press, it is defined in the Fundamental Rights of the Constitution.

As far as his opinion about the Press of India is concerned, I do not want to comment on that opinion. The hon. Member may be completely justified in holding that opinion, he may not be justified.

And as far as the action against this paper and referring the matter to the Press Council of India is concerned, this is a suggestion for action.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY (Madras) : Is it the practice in any free, democratic country for the Press or a newspaper to consult the Government as to what news it should publish and what news it should not publish? That was the suggestion made by Mr. Bhupesh Gupta that the 'Hindustan Times' should have consulted the Government before it published that particular item of news. Is it the practice in any free, democratic country for a newspaper to consult the Government as to what news it should publish?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : I did not understand the hon. Mr. Bhupesh Gupta saying that. I thought that he was suggesting that the 'Hindustan Times', before publishing the news item, should have verified whether this report was true or not. He was asking whether they tried to verify either from the Petroleum and Chemicals Ministry or from the Home Ministry. And I said that as far as I am aware at present there was no such verification made either from us or from the Petroleum and Chemicals Ministry. That was the answer I gave.

SHRI N. R. MUNISWAMY (Madras) : Several questions have been asked, and the hon. Minister was able to make an impression. The impression which I gathered was that he seems to be very helpless in this matter. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister or his Ministry would take steps to see that the papers do not give news which creates a panic in the minds of the people, especially with regard to a country with whom we are very friendly. And this news, especially when it is published in the 'Hindustan Times' that they have been expelled, would create

the impression that there is something going on against Russia and the Russian people. If the Minister says that because of the freedom of press he cannot take any action, I am afraid the hon. Minister seems to be highly helpless. He has every right to pull them up. May I know what action does he propose to take to contradict such false news propagated in the papers?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA :

I do not know how many hon'ble Members of this House will agree with Mr. Muniswamy that the Government has every right to pull up newspapers for publishing a news item like this. It is for the Press Council of India, if they consider it fit and the other pressmen to consider as to what action they should take to see that such reports are not published in newspapers. As I said earlier, it is not infrequent that such reports are published from time to time in various newspapers, and that is why I have also explained the constitutional position under which the Government has to work.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Mitra, you want to put a question?

SHRI P. C. MITRA (Bihar) : Sir, I also wanted to put the same question. May I know why the Government could not ask for an explanation from the 'Hindustan Times' as to how they could publish this news which might create disaffection among two friendly countries?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : As I said, this kind of thing is so frequent in our country that we will have to create a separate Ministry to handle this matter if we started doing it.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Uttar Pradesh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you know that I am not an admirer of the 'Hindustan Times' nor is the 'Hindustan Times' very obliging to me. But I fail to understand this too much sensitiveness about one news item. I think in such circumstances what the Government can only do is to contradict and say that the news is wrong as the hon. Minister has said. In every country of the world news about India is being published which has nothing to do with facts nor with the situation prevailing here in the country. You see the British press or the American press

[Shri Chandra Shekhar]

,or even the Russian press. The way the Russian press have been printing the picture of India is far from satisfactory and has nothing to do with facts here in this country. The hon. Minister has himself in this House said that the Russian Government have said that the radio, the press, the Peace and Progress, are free agencies and have nothing to do with them. So for their comments the Government cannot take responsibility. Therefore, why should the Government of India take the responsibility of a press run by the big business like the Birlas or Tatas or the Iains. I do not know where the Government comes into the picture since the Government have clarified the position that they have nothing to do with the news and the news is not quite correct. So much talk about nothing I do not understand. And, Sir, it will be very difficult for the press to function in this country if the representatives of the press are asked to verify every single item of the news from the Home Ministry or 'he Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Then they will simply be the bulletins of the Government'. I think even the Russian Government does not take this attitude about the press, namely the suggestion of my hon. friend, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, that they should see to it that every news in every paper in India should be published after verification or consultation with the Government. At least, Mr. Chairman, I request you that the forum of our Parliament should not be utilised to pressurise press representatives to such an extent that they are unable to give any free news. Sometimes the news may be incorrect. Then it should be said that it is incorrect and is condemnable.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Alva.

SHRI JOACHIM ALVA : (Nominated) : Let me put the question. You had your chance. I only wanted some explanation. 'My esteemed friend, Mr. Sinha, talked of papers. I want to correct him. There are no roses in the garden of Indian journalism now. Even Vhe great 'Hindu' has fallen under the hammer jn the sense that it does not publish certain types of news because a great monopolist firm like the Tatas have bought a substantial number of shares. That is true even of the 'Staves-man'. And I may confide to the House

that this information I got in a committee when Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru himself gave out the news to us that preference shares of the 'Hindu' were being bought by Tatas. I am subject to correction. I am veiling what I heard from Pt. Nehru himself at our meeting.

Secondly, Sir, the 'Statesman' is now directed by monopolists, Vhe Tatas principally, and the London Times splashed the story as to how the last Editor, Shri Prem Chopra was wrongfully elbowed out.

Lastly, Sir, Mr. Rajnarain has been barricading and sabotaging our question time. The question on Birlas has never come up in this House, and when the question came and when the written matter was given out that the Birlas' j firms have been prosecuted, the startling statement has been published only by the 'Patriot' and by the 'Economic Times'. No other paper of India has published it. This is a grave suppression of a very important fact which has something to do with the economic health of India.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY (Madras) : Notwithstanding the fact that the Ministers are denying this story in the papers, I am told that 572 Soviet experts are to come to Bokaro. May I know, Sir, whether the Government of India would take necessary steps to find out their^ antecedents before allowing them into this country?

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is already answered.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh) : It does nor arise out of this.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY : I made a serious charge before this House saying that some of these experts, who are spies, had come to the U.N.C.T.-A.D. . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : You should not waste the time of the House by putting certain questions which are not relevant'.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY : This is relevant . . .

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE (West Bengal) : I put a question about Mc-Namara which has not been answered. If his question is answered, the Minister will have to answer mine.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I tell you to put the question and the Minister will answer it. Papers to be laid.

श्री राजनारायण : हमारा यह कहना था कि मंत्री जी इस बात को क्यों नहीं सीधे-सीधे मान लेते कि जैसे न्यू एज में सी०आई०ए० के बारे में भूपेश गुप्त ने कोई चीज छाप दी तो उनके ऊपर मुकदमा चल रहा है और चागला साहब उसकी पैरवी कर रहे हैं * * * तो भूपेश गुप्त क्यों नहीं हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स के ऊपर कोई मुकदमा कर देते और सरकार ऐसे ही किसी एक्स-चीफ जज को उनकी मदद के लिए कर देती ?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, I must make it clear because my name has been dragged in. It is a serious matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It shall not be reported. It need not come.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL : I want to raise a point of order. Mr. Rajnarain has made a serious allegation against an hon. Member of the House, Mr. Chagla, that he is doing something * * * This is a very serious allegation that he has made and he should be asked to withdraw it. He is getting into the habit of bullying the whole House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It shall not be reported.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL : You kindly ask him to withdraw it ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly withdraw it.

श्री राजनारायण : मेरी आफत तो यह है कि जब मैं खड़ा होता हूँ तो बहुत से मेम्बर समझते हैं कि आफत आ जायगी ।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I think we should be very careful. I agree. The position is this. 'New Age' is a journal of which I happen to be the Editor. The 'New Age' published a report of defamation proceedings of one retired military official against the printers of the 'New Age' press. That military official has been named. A serious allegation has been made in the booklet

of John Smith, called 'I was a C.I.A. Agent'. The 'New Age' published the proceedings of the defamation thing. For that contempt proceedings have been started against the 'Patriot' and the 'New Age'. Sir, that is about all. Mr. Chagla happens to be appearing on the side of Mr. Sen, the former Lt. General or whatever it is, against whom the C.I.A. made an allegation. Sir, beyond that there is nothing.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has every right to appear. He is a lawyer.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : That is a different matter. Beyond that there is nothing. I would not like anybody to say that Mr. Chagla appeared * * * But the fact remains that he is appearing against me, a Member of the House, on behalf of the person against whom the C.I.A. made serious allegation.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्,

MR. CHAIRMAN : No more.

श्री राजनारायण : आपने मुझसे कुछ कहा आप मुझे सुनेंगे नहीं ? आप क्या प्रथा चला रहे हैं ? कुछ कहने का मौका दीजिए ।

श्री डाह्याभाई व० पटेल : आपको ही मौका है, आपके सिवा इस सदन में किसी को मौका नहीं मिलता ।

श्री राजनारायण : अब ये हल्ला मचायेंगे।

श्री लोकनाथ मिश्र (उड़ीसा) : हल्ला यह नहीं मचाते, आप मचाते हैं ।

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your point, Mr. Patel? I shall hear you.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL : If you have been listening, he says that Mr. Chagla is doing something * * *. This is an allegation against a very hon. Member of this House, a respected citizen of this country. I am sure he must be asked to withdraw it. That is what I am asking for.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Rajnarain, if you had made that allegation, it is wrong. You should withdraw it.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

श्री राजनारायण : आप हमको कुछ सुनिये तो। चन्द्रशेखर जी खड़े होकर बोलने लगे या यह बोलने लगे तो किसी को आप चेक नहीं करते।

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, I am prepared to hear.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, देखिये

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to suggest one thing. It is no use prolonging this useless and very improper type of debate. Please order that that sentence should be expunged from the record . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : That shall be expunged.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA : There is no need for explanations.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That must be expunged. There is no question about it. Mr. Rajnarain, what is it that you want to say?

श्री राजनारायण : सुनिये तो। नहीं सुनेंगे तो कुछ नहीं कहूंगा। आप हाउस को शांत रखिए, हाउस को कन्ट्रोल कीजिए। जब मैं खड़ा होऊं और कोई बोलने लगे तो मैं बोलता नहीं। जब तक हाउस शांत नहीं होगा तब तक मैं नहीं बोलूंगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, आपका जो आदेश हुआ उस सम्बन्ध में केवल इतना ही कहूंगा कि हमने चागला साहब के बारे में जो कहा अगर चागला साहब उसको इंकार करते हैं तो मैं सखे उसको वापस ले लूंगा। चागला साहब की यहां कोई अथारिटी नहीं है, जो हम कह रहे हैं उसका खंडन करने की अथारिटी श्रीमान जी नहीं हैं और न सभा है। चागला साहब को अगर हमारी बात से दुख है तो मैं जरूर सखेद वापस लूंगा, अगर यह असत्य है। मैं इनफरेंस निकाल रहे हैं यह सी०आई०ए० के खिलाफ स्पष्ट छपी ओर उसके बारे में चागला

साहब अपीयर हो रहे हैं। कहीं न कहीं से उनको फीस मिलती होगी। सी०आई०ए० के विरुद्ध श्री भपेरा गुप्ता ने मैटर छापा और अब उसकी तरफ से चागला साहब अपीयर हो रहे हैं, तो चागला साहब या तो फ्री जा रहे हैं या कुछ ले रहे हैं और अगर ले रहे हैं तो कौन देगा। वही तो देगा जिसका मुकदमा है। केवल इतना ही कहना है मुझे और अगर चागला साहब को दुख है तो मैं इसको वापस ले लूंगा।

MR. DHARIA : Mr. Chairman, on a point of order.

{Interruption}

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. Mr. Chagla has every right to appear for a client and I think it is very unfortunate that such an allegation should have been made. I would want the Member to withdraw it, or at any rate that shall be expunged. Now, papers to be laid on the Table. Dr. Rao.

श्री राजनारायण : इतना गुस्सा क्यों होते हैं। . . .

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS (1966-67) OF THE KANDLA PORT TRUST AND AUDIT REPORT THEREON

II. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS (1966-67) OF THE MORMUGAO PORT TRUST AND AUDIT REPORT THEREON

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of section 103 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963, a copy each of the following papers :—

(i) Annual Accounts of the Kandla Port Trust for the year 1966-67 and the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in the Library. See No. LT-1837/68.]

(ii) Annual Accounts of the Mormugao Port Trust for the year 1966-67 and the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2129/68.]