

Council of India has been set up and suggest such amendments as may be considered necessary to enlist for the Council full and effective cooperation from all sections of the Press and public and to enable it to play its due role in preserving the freedom of the Press and improve standards of journalism in the country which are in conformity with the basic objectives of the Council."

**SPEECH OF THE SECRETARY OF THE
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
MINISTRY**

410 SHRI P. C. MITRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Secretary of his Ministry had delivered a speech at a Seminar on the 'Role of Press in the Country' at New Delhi in the last week of January last that was held under the auspices of an organisation of Working Journalists and if so, whether the Officer concerned had obtained prior permission to deliver a public speech on the subject?

THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH): Yes; he participated in the Symposium. Although no permission was necessary, he had obtained prior permission.

**PAK. BLAME TO INDIA FOR SECESSIONISTS
MOVE IN E. PAK.**

411. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Pakistan has blamed the Government of India for secessionists move in East Pakistan; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) On January 6, 1968, the Government of Pakistan alleged that an Indian diplomat and some Indian Army officers in Agartala assisted several Pakistanis

in their design against the Government of Pakistan.

(b) The Government of India have categorically denied the allegations and regret the attempt of the Government of Pakistan to falsely involve Indian officials in what was essentially an internal development in East Pakistan.

A.I.R. FORUM FOR STUDENTS

412. SARDAR RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Radio propose to create a new forum for giving opportunities to students to ventilate their views; and

(b) if so, whether a final decision in the matter has been taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH): (a) and (b) Forums do exist which give opportunities to students to ventilate their views. Problems affecting students are also discussed in Citizen's Information Forums. Separate forums for students are proposed but have not taken a final shape.

**NEW SONG AT BEATING RETREAT
CEREMONY**

413. SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at the time of the Beating Retreat Ceremony on the 29th January, 1968 in New Delhi, a song entitled 'Rani Ka Nishan' was played on the Bands; and

(b) if so, in whose honour the said song was composed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) and (b) The tune 'Rani Ka Nishan' was composed in 1961 as a measure of good-will at