

पेट्रोलियम से बना कर के उसके डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन में जो कास्ट आयेगी उसको देखा जायगा और उसके हिसाब से काम किया जायगा। मैं माननीय सदस्य को यह भी बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि कोरबा में एक बहुत बड़ा अल्पमिनियम का कारखाना खोला जा रहा है।

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरडिया : वह मैंने देख लिया है।

श्री बी० आर० भगत : चूँकि वहाँ पर फर्टिलाइजर प्लान्ट की योजना नहीं बनाई गई है, इसलिये कोरबा में अल्पमिनियम का कारखाना बैठाया जा रहा है। अगर फर्टिलाइजर प्लान्ट की जरूरत होगी तो वैसा सोचा जायगा।

RECREATION FOR DEFENCE FORCES STATIONED AT HIGH ALTITUDE

*622. **SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA :** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) what arrangements have been made for the recreation of our Defence Forces stationed on duty at high altitudes in peace time;

(b) whether reading material is regularly supplied to them;

(c) whether they have full facilities to be in touch with their homes; and

(d) whether all necessary arrangements for their comfort have been made ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Our Defence Forces stationed on duty at high altitudes in peace time, along with those stationed elsewhere, are provided with all possible amenities and facilities for recreation, e.g. sports gear, indoor games, newspapers, periodicals and books, radios, gramophones, gramophone records, musical instruments and other amenities which help in maintaining the well-being and morale of our soldiers.

(b) Reading material, such as newspapers, periodicals, pamphlets, books, etc. are regularly supplied to them. Recently, books worth Rupees 3 lakhs were supplied from grants sanctioned from the National Defence Fund to our troops stationed in the forward areas.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir. All necessary arrangements for the comfort of our troops at high altitudes are made to the extent possible, subject to the limitations of terrain. These include extra rations and better food, extra clothing, including winter clothing and blankets, provision of recreation facilities mentioned above, various other field service concessions, sending of entertaining parties and mobile cinema units from time to time, etc.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : May I know whether there is a complaint to this effect that the newspapers and reading materials reach them after few months when they all become out of date and if that sort of complaint has been received by the Ministry, may I know what steps are being taken to see that newspapers and other materials are expeditiously supplied to our Defence Forces at high altitudes ?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH : Sir, I have not received any such complaint but I will again check up and ensure that they get newspapers and periodicals well in time.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : May I know whether certain complaints to this effect have been received that the families of these Forces do not have the necessary accommodation to live while the husbands are serving elsewhere and that they have difficulty in procuring rations because there are no male members in the families, the husbands and other male members being in the Defence Services and, if these complaints have come to the notice of the Defence Minister, may I know whether he will take steps to see that necessary amenities and facilities are provided to the families of the Defence Forces serving at high altitudes ?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH : It is true that accommodation is not available to the families of all the jawans and officers who are serving in the forward areas. Some accommodation has been made available but that does not cover all the families and in this we have to strike a balance between the accommodation requirements of the families of those who are serving in the forward areas and those who are posted in regular cantonments. Many of them come from the rural areas and normally the families of the jawans go back to the family houses in the rural areas.

With regard to the second question raised by the hon. Member, there is a feeling, Sir, that the families of the jawans and officers are not shown the requisite accommodation and sympathy by the civil administration and I have written personally some days back again to the Chief Ministers to ensure that the families of the jawans do not face this type of inconvenience.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : Thank you very much.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : May I know, Sir, from the hon. Minister—I do not know how exactly these papers are supplied, the various journals and newspapers—may I know whether it is not a fact that in the matter of supplying newspapers and magazines to them certain political discrimination is made by the authorities and the Government? May I know in this connection whether "New Age" is supplied to them, the weekly in English?

SHRI ABID ALI : No.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : He will answer. Why do you say "no"? There is "Jan Yug", a Hind; weekly. Then there are other papers in various languages, which are very good papers presenting particular points of view. I should like to know about "Naya Zamana", for example, in Punjabi, and about "Kalan-kar" in the Bengali language. I can give other names also. Now may I know, Sir, whether these papers are supplied because, after all, the jawans are entitled ..

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : On a point of order, Mr. Chairman; the hon. Member, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, is trying to propagate "New Age", the paper of which he is the editor. It is against parliamentary propriety to propagate a paper of which he is the editor.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : All right, Sir. Strike out "New Age". Let his words be accepted. Somebody else will mention. All right. But there are "Jan Yug" and other papers. Now, Sir, I ask this question because our armymen are expected to be informed of the political developments in the country and different points of view. Why should certain types of papers, simply because they are regarded as leftist papers and so on, be denied to them, whereas certain other types of

papers, American magazines, CIA journals, 'Thought' and everything, these are allowed, papers which write scurrilous things about Shrimati Indira Gandhi? I do not know if she reads these papers, but these are allowed, and not the reasonably political papers with which we are associated and which our army people are entitled to read. I would like the hon. Minister to clarify on this subject a little. What is the policy? Suppose I join the army. . .

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH : Let me answer now. It seems he is not prepared to hear anything. Sir, the type of literature, books, magazines and newspapers that are supplied, they are cleared by the Headquarters Board of senior officers, and the Government does not at all interfere in this. They know what is to the liking of the jawans and the officers and they are supplied the newspapers and magazines according to the decision taken by that Board. There was another question put by the hon. Member as to whether newspapers and periodicals in other languages, that is, in the regional languages are also supplied. It is a fact, Sir, that a large number of . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : No, Sir. I seek your protection against the Defence Minister. Now my question was not that, was not whether other newspapers in other languages and in English are supplied to them. That was not at all my question. My question was whether newspapers of particular viewpoints are supplied. Therefore I mentioned them for his edification. But he is not impressed with this kind of thing. That is what I say. Now kindly tell us : Is there any restriction on your part? And suppose the army people want to subscribe to any of those papers I have mentioned and similar other papers? Will your Ministry come in the way or the authorities under the Ministry?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH : Sir, I was saying that in these newspapers and periodicals that were supplied there are newspapers, periodicals and books of various regional languages as well. To the other question about which the hon. Member is pressing, I would like to say that there are no political considerations of any type in the selection of any literature and Government does not ask them to supply this or that type of literature. It is for the Headquarters to

decide on the type of literature that should be sent to the forces, and I would appeal to the hon. Member not to import any political considerations in this.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Of course I do.

SHRI AWADHESHWAR PRASAD SINHA : Sir, I know the solicitude of the Defence Minister for the well-being of the officers and jawans who are in high altitude, and of their families. I know it full well personally; I have had many discussions with him, but one point which is not before him or his high officers who are here at the Headquarters is this. As I know, the rule is that the officers and jawans have to be there for three years. Sir, I have contacted doctors outside the military and they say that this is too long a period and it should not be for more than two years that officers and jawans could be kept on high altitudes ranging from 10,000 to 18,000 feet because, otherwise, in course of time they develop breathing difficulties. This is the trouble for which many of them go hospital, and then they are forced to have a low category in service, and they come back to the plains. So I would beg of the Minister to think over it and revise the rule so that 'three years' is reduced to 'two years'.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is suggestion for action.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ : Sir, . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall try to give a chance to everyone. Those who catch my eye first must be given first preference.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Sir, I tried to catch your eye several times.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now Mr. Banka Behary Das.

SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS : Sir, it seems the hon. Minister suffers from a sense of complacency. His attention might have been drawn to unanimous recommendation by the team of M. Ps. who visited the cease-fire line in Kashmir. May I know from the Minister whether that team has recommended that the facilities that are provided to these jawans in the front are inadequate, and they have suggested providing more mobile cinemas and also providing cinemas in places where there are more of army personnel and, secondly, whether the Minister knows that when the

jawans send money orders to their homes, then a portion of it—particularly in Madhya Pradesh—in most of the cases is deducted by the post peon and others from the amount of the money order as a result of which they suffer financially and from mental agony? May I know, Sir, from the Minister also whether complaint has been lodged with the Defence Ministry many a time that when defence personnel apply for cement for their houses they do not get even an acknowledgment letter, nor do their offices get any acknowledgment letter? May I know from the Minister whether he is going to take any steps to see that these grievances are remedied and the jawans who are in the front at least work in peace for the protection of this country?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH : Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Member for his solicitude for the families of the jawans and I am sure that this will help a great deal. About the specific points that he has suggested, I would very much like to make more mobile cinemas or other film shows available to the jawans, and within the resources that are available we are trying to do our best, and I would like to inform the hon. Member that recently the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting have been good enough at our instance to sanction a scheme of expansion of the Songs and Drama Division, under which nine entertainment parties will be collected every year, eight of which will be on tour all the time in the forward areas, and one will remain at the Headquarters to look after the welfare of the jawans here. The other point was about the money orders. I would be very sorry if this is correct that from the money order amount that is sent by a jawan, or in fact by any citizen of India, a part is deducted by those who disburse the amount. I will be very sorry if this is correct. I am sure our post offices and our disbursing staff who disburse the money orders generally have a fairly good reputation. Yet I will pass on this to the Ministry of Communications. It is very bad news—if this is correct—that from any amount which is sent by way of a money order any portion is deducted by the person who disburses it. About the issue of cement or other essential commodities to the families of the jawans I must say that I have also received some complaints that the request of the families of the jawans, and of the jawans when they go home

on leave, for issue of essential commodities like cement, sugar, etc. is not generally looked after and attended to with as much sympathy as the situation warrants and, as I have already indicated, I have written personally to the Chief Ministers, and I think this will have some good effect.

SHRI ABID ALI : Cement is in plenty now.

شری اے۔ ایم۔ طارق : وزیر
صاحب نے یہ کہا ہے کہ اخباروں اور
میگزینوں کا سلیکشن آفیسر ہی کرتے
ہیں اور گورنمنٹ انٹرفیریٹس نہیں
کرتی۔ تو میں جاننا چاہتا ہوں :
† [श्री ए० एम० तारिक : वजीर साहब ने
यह कहा है कि अब्बारों और मैगजीनों का
सेलेक्शन आफिसर करते हैं और गवर्नमेंट इंटर-
फियरेन्स नहीं करती, तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ :]

Are these officers subordinates of the Government or do they constitute an independent authority ? Further I would like to know when the army personnel can get newspapers like "The Times" and magazines like "Life", "Time", and so on, what is the difficulty in their getting the other papers. Is it the policy of the Government to make our armed forces mentally pro-American, by supplying them magazines like Life, Time and other such magazines ? They obtain newspapers like "The Indian Express" and "The Hindustan Times". Can they get 'Patriot' and "Link" also?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH : Sir, I would require separate notice to find out what particular newspapers or periodicals are cleared.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, I think the hon. Minister is clearly evading a reply. Surely the Defence Minister of the country knows exactly which are the leading newspapers that are supplied to the armed forces.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He does not know the details and he says a separate question may be put.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I asked a similar question, but I did not pursue it then. Now the hon. Member has put it and he has mentioned some of the popular newspapers and magazines that are being supplied to the armed forces.

[Hindi transliteration.

Why is the hon. Minister not in a position to tell us? Do I take it that he does not know anything about it? If so, let him say he is ignorant about it.

SHRI ABID ALI : Those papers should not be supplied.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : First of all, Sir, I would like to say that the hon. Minister stated that there was no political discrimination in the supply of newspapers.

SHRI ABID ALI : Not pro-Chinese ones.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Sir, I seek your protection, because the hon. Minister is misleading the House. I know personally that for reading leftist newspapers some army personnel have been sacked from the Army and...

SHRI ABID ALI : Nice thing, if that is done. It should be done.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your question ?

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : The hon. Minister is misleading the House.

SHRI ABID ALI : Leftist newspapers should not be read by the Army.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Shut up. I would like to know whether the Defence Ministry has given any . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I think there should be some tap arrangement over the head of Mr. Abid Ali so that cold water may continuously be dripping on him.

SHRI ABID ALI : The hon. Minister should not allow our Army people to read newspapers which propagate the ideas of the traitors of this country, of people who want China to come and occupy this country.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : He is a traitor and a bourgeois . . .

(Interruptions)

SHRI ABID ALI : These papers are controlled by traitors and they propagate day in and day out that China is on the right path and we are on the wrong path. Such papers should not be read by our Army personnel.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Shut up.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Niren Ghosh, put your question.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : I was asking the hon. Minister whether his Ministry has made . . .

SHRI ABID ALI: These papers ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Sit down, Mr. Abid Ali.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : ... any scrutiny of the ...

SHRI R. T. PARTHASARATHY : Sir, can any hon. Member call another hon. Member "traitor"? Is it parliamentary? Is it permissible? I want to know.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : He has done it.

SHRI R. T. PARTHASARATHY : Mr. Gupta called an hon. Member "traitor". Is it parliamentary? I want your ruling.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : What is there? He is every day calling Members here traitors.

SHRI R. T. PARTHASARATHY : It should be protested against.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Stop your own men first. I know the meaning of traitor and I know when I can say it.

SHRI R. T. PARTHASARATHY : Whoever says it, he has no right to call another a traitor.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : He is of the view that the entire left is composed of traitors. He said that the leftist papers belong to traitors.

SHRI ABID ALI : I said there are papers in the country which are controlled by traitors and such papers should not be read by the armed forces.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : We don't want idiotic supplementaries.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SYED AHMAD : Sir, is the ...

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Sit down.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH : I have already supplied the information that the Headquarters team consisting of senior officers is not motivated by any political consideration. But if there is any type of literature which it feels is not suitable and not to the liking of the troops generally, then it cannot compel them to read this or not to read that. It should be appreciated that ...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : All right. Are you ready if I send the papers free?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no. Please sit down

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Mr. Chairman, the hon. Minister should treat this question seriously. He says he cannot compel. But that is not the question. Suppose I send my paper to a large number of jawans. If they return the paper, let them do so. But will the hon. Minister come in the way of their reading the paper?

(No reply)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question.

DEVELOPMENT OF BALLISTIC MISSILES BY CHINA

•623. SHRI HARISH CHANDRA MATHUR:^t

PROF. SHANTILAL KOTHA-RI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is Government's latest information regarding developemnt of ballistic missiles with nuclear heads of China;

(b) could these be used for effectively supporting conventional weapons; and

(c) if it is so, what is our answer to these?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) : (a) China is placing considerable emphasis on the large scale production of medium range missiles capable of delivering atomic war-heads. Reports available with the Government indicate that the Chinese have already completed the development of a medium range ballistic missile and they will probably achieve an operational ICBM capability before 1972.

(b) and (c) Ballistic missiles with nuclear war-heads are weapons of mass destruction and their being used in close support of conventional weapons should not ordinarily be necessary. The Government however believe that any use of nuclear weapons by any power has the

^tThe question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Harish Chandra Mathur.