

**CALLING ATTENTION TO A
MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC
IMPORTANCE**

**REPORTED CONCENTRATION OF
PAKISTANI TROOPS ON INDIA'S WESTERN
BORDERS**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, calling attention to a matter of urgent public importance.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Defence to the reported concentration of troops by Pakistan on India's Western borders and the recent display of Chinese arms and other warlike preparations by Pakistan.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Government are aware of the presence of Pakistani troops on the Pakistan side of the Indian borders with West Pakistan, and of the display of MiG-19 aircraft and Chinese tanks in the Joint Services parade held at Rawalpindi on 23rd March. Government have also received reports of cancellation of leave in some military formations in Pakistan. A careful watch is kept on the situation across our borders.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : सभापति जी, मेरा पहला सवाल खेमकरन के बारे में होगा। क्या यह सच है कि खेमकरन के ऊपर पाकिस्तान का दबाव बढ़ रहा है? क्या यह भी सच है कि हमारी सेना खेमकरन के क्षेत्र में सीमा तक नहीं है, सीमा से थोड़ा पीछे है? क्या यह सच है कि कोई भी नागरिक खेमकरन में नहीं जा सकता और जाने से पहले उसे डिप्टी कमिश्नर की इजाजत लेनी पड़ती है? क्या संसद सदस्यों को इस बात की छूट है कि वे खेमकरन में जायें और देखें कि वहाँ क्या हो रहा है?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: If some people want to go to Khem Karan, certainly for forces of the military or for armed forces we can make arrangements. Naturally these areas are administered by the State Government. As for location of armies, certainly it is a matter depending on many other considerations and where exactly they are I cannot disclose that. May be people cannot go to Khem Karan. It is quite possible

because as we know, Khem Karan town itself was practically devastated by the Pakistan army. So previous precautions are possible necessary to remove any mines or any other possible dangers which may be involved. Certain steps might have been taken and because of that this rush of population might not have been allowed. I am just giving my own reaction to the question that the hon. Member put. The point in all this is whether there is any pressure there by the Pakistani army and to that I must say "No."

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: In the Punjab Legislative Council one member raised yesterday the question of Pakistani forces having captured a village Rania, on the Wagah border, and the State Government could not deny it and so a wrong impression has been created. I would like to know whether the Defence Minister can tell us anything about that.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I can assure the hon. Member because he himself conveyed this message to me three or four days ago and I immediately verified this information to find out if it was correct. If it had been correct I would have come to this House and informed hon. Members about it. But I can say authoritatively that (his information is incorrect.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, the Tashkent Declaration was also sought to be justified on the ground that it might help us or our friends to wean away Pakistan from China. But after the Tashkent Declaration Pakistan has blatantly displayed Chinese arms and Chinese leaders are visiting Pakistan and making all sorts of provocative speeches. I would like to know whether the attention of the Government of the U.S.A. has been drawn to this fact and if so, what is the reaction?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Sir, I think as we know about these Chinese arms being paraded by Pakistan at Rawalpindi—it is well known—the U.S.A. also must be knowing it. I cannot say exactly what points the Prime Minister is raising with the President there. We will have to wait for that. But it is known to them.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL (Delhi): Sir, it is unfortunate that so soon after it is noted that the Tashkent spirit is breathing hard and I do not know how far this artificial

respiration will help. May I ask the hon. Minister if his attention has been drawn to the fact that a news item has appeared this morning that some infiltrators, armed infiltrators, have been arrested including a Pakistani army personnel? And secondly may I know if the leaves of all army personnel in Pakistan has been cancelled? And thirdly is it a fact that the Chinese President has paid a sort of tribute to the Pakistan army saying that they had defended Lahore heroically against what he called the aggressors?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Sir, this news item to which the hon. Member has referred I have seen I will have to verify it. Without verification of the facts I cannot make any statement. About the cancellation of leave I have already mentioned it in the Statement that I made just now. As for the President of the Chinese Republic making all sorts of encouraging statements and referring to "Kashmir rebellion" or Pakistan army it is all on the card. I think it is not something which is unexpected by us, because they would naturally like to instigate Pakistan if they can.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA (Bihar): May I know, Sir, if the hon. Minister's attention has been drawn to a news report which appeared a day or two back that the leaders of China who are in Pakistan have offered to Pakistan a sort of guarantee of armed support in case there is any aggression on them? If Government have any information about this, may I know what is the Government's notion about the conception of "aggression" that China and Pakistan have?

SHRI V. B. CHAVAN: Sir, this type of a link-up of Pakistan and China is not something new. What is reaching Delhi gives us convincing evidence and it is further confirmed. But what they will do or what they can do is certainly a question of assessment, not only political assessment but also operational assessment.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरङ्गिया
(मध्य प्रदेश) : क्या श्रीमान् यह बतलायेंगे
कि क्या यह बात सही है कि रजौरी के बाडेंर
पर पाकिस्तानियों ने भारतीयों की ओर
गोलियां चलाईं? दूसरे खेमकरन के बाडेंर पर
M4JRS/66—3

जो रेलवे लाइन बिछाई गई और जो ताशकन्द
का समझौता हुआ था उसके हिसाब से आशा
थी कि भारतीय सीमा के पास भारत के नागरिक
जहां से भाग आये थे वहां उनके फिर
बसाने की व्यवस्था की जायगी लेकिन वहां पर
क्या उनको बसने नहीं दिया जा रहा है।

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I have explained the latter part of the question.

SHRI V. M. CHORDIA: What about Rajouri?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I have not received any information about actual exchange of fire near Rajouri. Near Rajouri some sort of violation of ground rules was there on the other side of the border, in the sense that they were trying to strengthen their defences. We lodged a complaint about it. I have no information whether there is any concentration of Pakistan troops.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL (Gujarat): After the Tashkent Declaration there was a feeling that border violations, firing across the border, have ceased. Will the hon. Minister of Defence tell us whether there is any revival of the border violations and whether it has been necessary for the Indian troops to fire, or whether there has been any firing from the other side on our troops who are defending the border?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Till yesterday afternoon the information confirmed the information that I had with me, that on the border in Rajasthan or Barmer and Jaisalmer, there was no breach of ground rules as such. On the northern side there were some three violations. I am talking subject to correction because I may be getting further information. The information is that there were three violations in the course of the last few weeks and they were of the nature, as I said, of strengthening of defences on their side. We have lodged a complaint. But I have no information of any violation which involves exchange of fire.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY (Mysore): I would like to know if the Government have thought fit to bring to the notice of the Russian Government, which did invaluable service by bringing Pakistan and India

[Shri M. Govinda Reddy] together, the violations in the matter of implementation of the Tashkent spirit as far as Pakistan is concerned. Although the Defence Minister has admitted the concentration of troops there is evidence to show that there is infiltration in Kashmir in several places. I would like to know if these facts will be brought to the notice of the U.S.S.R. Government.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Whatever the facts are, they are certainly being brought to the notice of the U.S.S.R. Government.

SHRI C. D. PANDE (Uttar Pradesh): May I know if the Government is in possession of any information about the annual production of MIGs in China? What is the total production of MIGs and tanks in China? Because if they can give 50 tanks and 50 MIGs at one time it is quite possible they may increase the number and China may even decide to fight a war against India through Pakistan. In that case, potential of China's manufacture of MIGs and tanks will be of great concern to us.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Well, Sir, I won't be able to immediately, off the cuff, give an answer to this question about the general potential capacity of China's production of a particular type of tanks and particular type of aircraft. Certainly they have very substantial potential of aircraft and tank production. But there are different types of tanks, and particularly in the case of this type of tank it will not be difficult for a country like China to give 100 tanks to Pakistan. In any case this is a thing which we can only presume.

SHRIMATI SHAKUNTALA PARANJ-PYE (Nominated): The hon. Minister said that there were three violations after the Tashkent Agreement. May I know what type of violations they were?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I thought I did mention that. They are strengthening the defences on their side of the border.

DR. ANUP SINGH (Punjab): Can the hon. Minister give any information regarding the military equipment or paraphernalia which China has already given or contemplates giving?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I have not got any authoritative information. The general information I have got is that they have got one or two squadrons of MIG 19 and some tanks.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA (Gujarat): May I know whether there is any concentration of Pakistani troops at the Kutch border? Last time when Pakistan attacked at the Kutch border our forces experienced difficulty of water for drinking and other purposes. May I know whether the Defence Minister intends to recommend to the Ministry of Irrigation and Power to accept 500 feet height for the dam over the Narmada river at Navagam so that nine to ten lakh acres of land in the little Rann of Kutch can be irrigated?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Well, Sir, as far, as the concentration is concerned I have no information. About the recommendation the Minister of Irrigation has heard it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): May I ask a question in the name of the Tashkent spirit and for the sake of it? Has it occurred to the Government that the wholly wrong position of the Government of the People's Republic of China in this context is being sought to be utilised by certain enemies of the Tashkent Declaration in order to provoke the Government of India to make certain statements about Pakistan which may not be regarded as in line with the Tashkent Declaration and, if so, may I have an assurance that the Government of India will not play into such provocations?

PROF. M. B. LAL (Uttar Pradesh): Insinuations.

(Interruptions)

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: The Government certainly will not be provoked to make any statements. At the same time the Government will have to give a realistic assessment of the situation to the country and to Parliament. And as I have said, it is our determination to stand by the Tashkent Agreement but at the same time we cannot be complacent about the new trends that appear on the horizon.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Is it not a fact that Pakistani airmen are receiving training in China and if so why has this fact not been given in the statement made by

the Minister? The Pakistan Radio has claimed that Pakistani airmen are being trained in Communist China.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Well, Sir, these are very routine matters. Once we know that they are buying their planes how can we expect that they would not have their airmen trained there to operate those planes? That I thought was a matter of presumption.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ruthnaswamy.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Does the hon. Minister have any definite information?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Vajpayee, I have called Mr. Ruthnaswamy.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY (Madras): In view of the new developments that are taking place in Pakistan and China in collusion with each other, may I know whether our Military Intelligence service is being strengthened and improved so that we may not be taken unawares again?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Yes, Sir. Necessary efforts are being continuously made.

COL. B. H. ZAIDI (Uttar Pradesh): Some American papers have stated that the Government of the U.S.A. would not like Pakistan's exclusive dependence on China for the supply of military hardware and they hint that it would be desirable for the U.S.A. to start at least partially the supply of military hardware to Pakistan so that Pakistan does not come to depend too much on China. I trust that this is not lost on our Government.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: It is not lost on our Government.

SHRI M. M. MEHTA (Gujarat): Is the Government thinking of building a permanent defence line on the western border by extending the Rajasthan Canal to Kutch?

(Interruptions)

(No reply)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I now proceed to the next item.

TWENTY-THIRD REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY (Mysore): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Twenty-third Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings on Indian Airlines Corporation, New Delhi.

REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON OFFICES OF PROFIT

SHRIMATI SHARDA BHARGAVA (Rajasthan): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Fourth Report of the Joint Committee of the Houses on Offices of Profit.

REFERENCE TO REPORTED OPERATIONS OF ALIEN SPY RINGS IN THE NORTHERN BORDER DISTRICTS OF U.P.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA (Bihar): Sir, I seek your permission to bring to the notice of this House and the Minister concerned a report in the newspapers. It is said that some alien spy rings are operating in the northern border districts of Uttar Pradesh bordering on Tibet. It has been mentioned that some institutions have been searched and the Head of one of those institutions has been arrested because a powerful transmitter was found in the establishment. It has also been alleged that the national of a foreign country, a friendly country, was discovered in a prohibited area and again a transmitter was found on his person. This matter was raised in the U.P. legislature. While in the Vidhan Sabha, that is, the Legislative Assembly, a reply is to be given, the Vidhan Parishad, that is, the Council took the view that this was a Central matter and could appropriately be raised only in Parliament. I am therefore bringing it to your notice and the notice of this House, and I hope the Minister concerned—I think it is the Minister of Home Affairs—will enlighten us on this subject as soon as possible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have received the notice; I'm passing it on to the Minister.