

estimated that 95 per cent of children in the age group 6—11 attend school in Delhi.

Every year a house to house survey is also carried out to find out the number of children in the compulsory age group needing additional schooling facilities. In the last survey made towards the end of 1965, the number of such children was estimated to be 60,000 approximately. According to the Delhi Municipal Corporation about 10 per cent of these have already joined.

12 NOON

MOTION OF PRIVILEGE AGAINST SHRI RAJ NARAIN

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : Sir, with regard to the privilege motion moved by the Leader of the House yesterday, may I request him to withdraw the motion and leave the entire matter in your hands to dispose of it as you deem proper?

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI M. C. CHAOLA) : I am sure the whole House has every confidence in you and every Member of this House will welcome the suggestion. I am willing to accept it. I leave it to you and I am prepared to withdraw the motion.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will take the matter in my hands and do my best. I hope it will be for the good.

Does he have the permission of the House to withdraw the motion ?

(No hon. Member dissented.)

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

1. REPORTED MASSING OF TROOPS AND MILITARY EXERCISES BY PAKISTAN ON OUR BORDER

SHRI D. THENGARI (Uttar Pradesh) : Sir, I beg to call the attention

urgent public importance

of the Minister of Defence to the reported massing of troops and military exercises by Pakistan on our border with Pakistan and the situation arising therefrom.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, for the last one month or so, movements of Pakistani troops, on our borders of Jammu and the Punjab, have been coming to our notice. The movements and other measures taken by the Pakistan Government have caused us some concern. Even assuming that these troop movements are in the nature of exercises, closeness of troops to the border is something which is not expected normally, and certainly not in the context of the Tashkent Agreement and the agreements between the Chief of the Army Staff, India and Commander-in-Chief, Pakistan Army under which the withdrawals took place on both sides.

On 23rd August 1966, Pakistani official sources in India, which could only mean the Pakistan High Commission, incorrectly briefed two foreign correspondents about so-called Indian troop movements on to the borders near Sialkot, Punjab and Kutch. That this kind of briefing was only a cover for Pakistan's own troop movements is obvious. We denied the Pakistani allegation and gave facilities to foreign and Indian journalists to visit our western border. They have seen for themselves that there are no troops on our side near the border and, what is more, they have obtained confirmation, locally, of the fact of the deployment of troops, including armour, etc., just across the border on the Pakistan side.

Troop movements by Pakistan on to our western borders, and their continued retention there, is something which we cannot look upon with equanimity, however restrained we may be in our approach. We must, in the face of this continuing phenomena take precautionary steps. However on assessment of the situation I do not anticipate any imminent threat. I would like to assure the House that we are keeping careful watch over the situation and