

पंजाब के मुख्य मंत्री के विरुद्ध लगाये गये आरोपों की जांच

*६७२. श्री ए० बी० वाजपेयी : क्या प्रधान मंत्री २६ अगस्त, १९६३ को राज्य सभा में तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ३०६ के दिये गये उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उन्होंने पंजाब के मुख्य मंत्री के विरुद्ध गैर-कम्युनिस्ट विरोधी दलों द्वारा लगाये गये आरोपों की व्यक्तिगत जांच पूरी कर ली है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो वह किस निष्कर्ष पर पहुंचे हैं ?

i [ENQUIRY INTO THE CHARGES LEVELLED AGAINST PUNJAB CHIEF MINISTER

*672. SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 309 in the Rajya Sabha on 29th August, 1963 and state:

(a) whether he has completed the personal enquiry into the charges levelled against the Chief Minister of Punjab by the non-Communist opposition parties; and

(b) if so, what is the conclusion he has arrived at?

वैदेशिक कार्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री दिनेश सिंह) (क) और (ख) :
मुख्य मंत्री पंजाब के विरुद्ध लगाये गये आरोपों से सम्बन्धित कागजात की जांच पड़ताल अभी मुकम्मल नहीं हुई है। विदित हो कि इन आरोपों में से कई एक लगभग दो वर्ष या उससे पहले कांग्रेस के अध्यक्ष को मिल थे वे आरोप एक उप-समिति को भेजे गए, जो इस नतीजे पर पहुंची थी कि उनमें कोई अश्लियत नहीं थी। अब उनकी और दूसरे आरोपों की, इकट्ठी जांच पड़ताल, उन आरोपों के जवाबों के साथ जो कि मुख्य मंत्री से प्राप्त हुए हैं, हो रही है।

+ [THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) The examination of the papers relating to the charges against the Chief Minister of the Punjab has not yet been completed. It may be mentioned that many of these charges were received about two years or more ago by the President of the Congress. These were referred to a sub-committee, which came to the conclusion that there was nothing substantial in them. These and the additional charges are now being examined together with the replies to them received from the Chief Minister.]

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Now that the Government have taken official cognizance of the enquiry conducted by the Congress President may I know, Sir, whether the report of that enquiry will be made available to the Members so that we are in a position to know whether that Committee considered the issue as an internal affair of the Congress or an issue involving high principles of public conduct?

/SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Sir, I do not think that it would be proper for me because it is not in my province to request the Congress President to give a report of an enquiry that was conducted some two or three years ago. That would be a novel way of approaching this question, getting some papers which are confidential with them. It was mentioned in reply to the question that it was merely for the information of the hon. Members.

May I add that to some extent I am guilty for the delay in considering these matters now, because I had decided to look into all these papers myself personally. I had previously decided these papers to be looked through, to be examined by some senior officials. But I have been so heavily occupied during these days

of Parliament that I have been unable to do it. The fault is partly mine. Now, of course, lately, these are old charges. And recently many further papers in this connection have been received and the Punjab Government has supplied numerous papers, their comments. It is a very big file, very big bundle. It will take a little time to examine all these.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Sir, the Chief Minister of Punjab has indicated in the State Assembly yesterday his readiness to face a judicial enquiry which shows that he too is eager to vindicate his position, or he too wants to have an opportunity to clear himself. But he has laid down certain absurd conditions in regard to such enquiry. May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Prime Minister would impress upon the Chief Minister of Punjab the desirability of agreeing to a judicial enquiry without any preconditions, and gratefully?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Sir, I have seen in only this morning's newspapers something about what the Chief Minister has said, about his being perfectly prepared to have an enquiry. I know nothing else. I have not had any other communication about it.

As for the conditions which the hon. Member mentioned, it may be feasible or not feasible. I do not think he has said that. The enquiry should not last more than a month, that, is the only condition I remember.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Here is *one more* condition.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: And the other condition is that if he is found guilty he should be punished; if not, then his accusers should be punished,

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: May I know, Sir, if the hon. Prime Minister is aware of the hectic lobbying that is going on in favour of Mr. Kairon inside Parliament and outside it, and

whether he is in a position to assure this House that no amount of lobbying will deter him in taking into consideration the basic issues that are involved in this question?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I do not know. One thing I may say, Sir, just to explain the position. This matter has been referred to in Parliament and, to some extent, discussed. But it is not a matter for Parliament to consider really, if I may say so with all respect to you, Sir, because essentially it is a matter which the Punjab Assembly, being an autonomous State and autonomous Assembly, has to consider and express its opinion upon. It would be outside the scope, almost Constitutional scope, for us in Parliament to consider that. It is open to us to consider other aspects of the matter as we did, but essentially it is for the Punjab Assembly. No Constitutional difficulty has arisen in Punjab. Government has not failed there, the Assembly has not failed to function; they are functioning. And, therefore, normally, it is for them to consider.

As for the question that the hon Member has asked me, about lobbying I suppose the hon. Member knows more about it than I do. I do not go and sit in the Central Hall. It appears to me that if there is lobbying, there is lobbying of all kinds and in every direction.

شری عبدالغفور : ابھی حال میں
شری مومن سنگھ ترک کے خلاف
درجوں کس چلے - پنجاب ڈورنمنٹ
نے چلائے جب انہوں نے اعلیٰ عدالت
کو پنجاب کے باہر ان کے سہو کو
تہائی کرنے کے لئے کہا تو اس وقت
یہ آدر ہو گئے کہ باہر تہائی ہو گئے -
اب سگار نے اچانک تمام چارجز کو

واپس لے لیا ہے - وہ تمام کمسیز واپس لے لئے گئے ہیں - تو کیا یہ چھڑ پلجباب گورنمنٹ اور وہاں کے چھف منسٹر کی کٹلی کونشن کو ظاہر نہیں کرتی - میں یہ عرض کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ جتنے بھی یرویس ججمنٹ ہو چکے ہیں جو اسٹیکچر پاس ہوئے ہوں ان کا خیال رکھا جائے اور کپور اور گورنل کس میں ان کے خلاف جو باتیں کہی گئیں ہیں ان سب باتوں کو خیال میں رکھ کر انصاف کے لئے انہیں کورٹ میں لایا جانا چاہئے -

†[**श्री अब्दुल सनी :** अभी हाल में श्री मोहन सिंह तर्क के खिलाफ दर्जनों केस चले । पंजाब गवर्नमेंट ने चलाये । जब उन्होंने आला अदालत को पंजाब के बाहर इन केसेस को ट्राई करने के लिए कहा तो उस वक्त यह आर्डर हो गये कि बाहर ट्राई होंगे । अब सरकार ने अचानक इन तमाम चार्जिज को वापस ले लिया है । वह तमाम केसेस वापस ले लिए गये हैं । तो क्या यह चीज पंजाब गवर्नमेंट और वहां के चीफ मिनिस्टर की गिल्टी कोंशस को जाहिर नहीं करती । मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि जितने भी प्रिवियस जजमेंट हो चुके हैं जो जो इस्टिक्चर पास हुए हैं उन का ख्याल रखा जाये और कपूर और गरेवाल केस में उन के खिलाफ जो बातें कही गई हैं उन सब को ख्याल में रख कर इन्साफ के लिये उन्हें कोर्ट में लाया जाना चाहिये ।]

श्री सभापति : जब आप बोलते हैं तो उस वक्त मना करना बेकार है, आप तकरीर कर रहे हैं या मुख्तसर सवाल कर रहे हैं ?

شری عبدالغنی : ابھی آدھٹی منسٹر صاحب نے کہا کہ دو سال سے زیادہ سے ہوا کہ جب کوئی چارج شیف کانگریس پریذیڈنٹ کو دیا گیا تھا اور پرائم منسٹر صاحب نے کہا وہ رپورٹ میں یہاں پر نہیں دیکھ سکتا ہوں - میں ان کو یاد دلانا چاہتا ہوں کہ جو پتیشن شری کھروں کے خلاف دی گئی تھی اس میں میں بھی ایک سنگھتری تھا اور اب بھی ہوں اس پر پارلیمنٹ بورڈ نے جو جواب دیا اور اس کی کنسٹیٹیوٹو ریسیسٹیوٹی چھف منسٹر پر قالی اور چھف منسٹر نے ریزائن کرنے کا آفر دیا جو کہ منظور نہیں کی گئی -

†[**श्री अब्दुल सनी :** अभी डिप्टी मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा कि दो साल से ज्यादा समय हुआ कि जब कोई चार्जशीट कांग्रेस प्रेसीडेंट को दिया गया था और प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा वह रिपोर्ट में यहाँ पर नहीं रख सकता हूँ । मैं उन को याद दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि जो पिटीशन श्री कैरों के खिलाफ दी गई थी उस में मैं भी एक सिगनेटरी था और अब भी हूँ इस पर पार्लियामेंट बोर्ड ने जो जवाब दिया और इस की कंस्ट्रक्टिव रेस्पॉसिबिलिटी चीफ मिनिस्टर पर डाली और चीफ मिनिस्टर ने रिजाइन करने का आफर दिया जोकि मंजूर नहीं की गई ।]

श्री सभापति : अब आप चुप हो जायें ।

شری عبدالغنی : تو میں یہ کہتا ہوں کہ ڈپٹی منسٹر صاحب نے جو فرمایا ہے ایک غلط بیانی سی ہے - ان پر چارج لگایا گیا ہے

اور کانسٹیبلنگ ڈیپارٹمنٹ کی ڈالی گئی ہے۔ میں یہ عرض کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ دس سال پہلے جو میں نے پتھشن دی تھی اور کہروں پر ڈیپارٹمنٹ کی ڈالی گئی تھی چونکہ میں اس کا سیکرٹری ہوں جو چارج شہت دیا گیا تھا تو میں پوچھنا چاہتا ہوں کہ پرائم منسٹر صاحب سے چونکہ چارجز جو دئے گئے ہیں وہ میرے ہاتھ میں ہیں اور میں نے یہ ڈیکریسٹ کی تھی کہ ان کے خلاف انکوائری کی جائے اور انہوں نے کہا کہ میں انکوائری کرونگا۔ جب سردار پرتاپ سنگھ کہتے ہیں کہ انکوائری کھینچتے تو ہم بھی بالکل تیار ہیں اور نہ صرف ایسے پروسیجریشن کو پروسیجرس کریں گے بلکہ جوڈیشل یا سپریم کورٹ کوئی بھی جج جو بھی فیصلہ دے گا اس کے مطابق یا ہم اندر جائیں گے یا وہ جیل کے اندر جائیں گے۔

†[**شری عبدالغنی :** تو میں یہ کہتا ہوں کہ ڈپٹی مینسٹر صاحب نے جو کچھ فرمایا ہے وہ ایک غلط بیانی کی ہے۔ ان پر چارج لگایا گیا ہے کہ کنسٹریکٹو ریسپنسیبیلٹی ڈالی گئی ہے۔ میں یہ ارج کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ دو سال پہلے جو میں نے پیڈیشن دی تھی اور کہروں پر ریسپنسیبیلٹی ڈالی گئی تھی چونکہ میں اس کا سیکرٹری ہوں جو چارج شہت دیا گیا تھا تو میں پوچھنا چاہتا ہوں کہ پرائم منسٹر صاحب سے چونکہ چارجز جو دئے گئے ہیں وہ میرے ہاتھ میں ہیں اور میں نے یہ ڈیکریسٹ کی تھی کہ ان کے خلاف انکوائری کی جائے اور انہوں نے کہا کہ میں انکوائری کرونگا۔ جب سردار پرتاپ سنگھ کہتے ہیں کہ انکوائری کھینچتے تو ہم بھی بالکل تیار ہیں اور نہ صرف ایسے پروسیجریشن کو پروسیجرس کریں گے بلکہ جوڈیشل یا سپریم کورٹ کوئی بھی جج جو بھی فیصلہ دے گا اس کے مطابق یا ہم اندر جائیں گے یا وہ جیل کے اندر جائیں گے۔

[] Hindi transliteration.

اور انہوں نے کہا کہ میں انکوائری کرونگا۔ جب سردار پرتاپ سنگھ کہتے ہیں کہ انکوائری کھینچتے تو ہم بھی بالکل تیار ہیں۔ اور نہ صرف اپنے پراسیکیوشن کو پروڈیوس کریں گے بلکہ جڈیشیال یا سپریم کورٹ کا کوئی بھی جج جو بھی فیصلہ دے گا اس کے مطابق یا ہم اندر جائیں گے یا وہ جیل کے اندر جائیں گے۔]

شری جواہرلال نہرو : میں نے جناب کی یہ ایک تکریر سنی جو کہ ایک پراسیکیوشن کی سپیچ معلوم ہوتی ہے کسی مقدمہ میں۔ انہوں نے اپنی تکریر میں کوئی سوال نہیں فرمایا۔

[**کئی ماننویہ سبب لڑے گئے**]

شری سبھاش : آپ سب ساہبان توجہ کر لیں کہ پہلے کون سا صاحب بولنا چاہتا ہے۔

شری رام سہای : میں یہ ارج کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ ان کے والدین کی یہ بات زیادہ سنی جاتی ہے۔ میرا کوشش یہ ہے۔ . . .

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: On & point of order, Sir. Mr. Abdul Ghani has put a definite question whether the Sub-committee appointed by the Congress Committee . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has brought in so many things. It is a long thing.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Not so many things, Sir. There is one straight question, specific question whether the Sub-committee found the Chief Minister guilty of constructive responsibility in the matter. Unless the report is made available to the House, how can we know what the Sub-committee recommended?

DTWAN CHAMAN LALL: It is neither an official report nor an official matter. It has got nothing whatever to do with the Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not want this matter to be argued.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Sir, I seek your intervention. The Deputy Minister in his reply has referred to some enquiry conducted by the Congress President.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has referred to it but he also said that those charges and the additional charges are now under consideration.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: He has also stated that the Sub-committee did not find the Chief Minister guilty, Mr. Abdul Ghani says that the Subcommittee did find the Chief Minister guilty of constructive responsibility. How are we to decide it?

(Some hon. Members rose to speak.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: So many? One, two, three, four, five, six. Mr. Ram Sahai.

श्री राम सहाय : मेरी अर्ज यह है कि क्या मैं जान सकूंगा कि प्रधान मंत्री जी को किसी स्टेट के चीफ़ मिनिस्टर के बारे में इस प्रकार की जांच करने का कोई अधिकार है और इस बारे में हाउस में इस प्रकार की कोई बात करने का अधिकार है ?

(श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : मैं ने शुरू में कहा कि इस का कोई अधिकार नहीं है । अगर कांग्रेस ने कुछ किया है तो बहसियत एक सरकारी कानून के नहीं बल्कि कांग्रेस का जो रिश्ता है उस से किया है ।)

SHRI GANGA SHARAN SINHA: Sir, normally I do not think this House can ask for any such report, but here a reference has been made in the reply. With regard to that reply, there is some dispute regarding the fact. In the reply it has been stated that the Chief Minister was exonerated or the charges had no substance. But here is an hon. Member who says that it is not correct and wrong informa-

tion is being given to the House. Therefore that report should be placed before this House, Sir. Secondly, when the Government mentions something from that report it is supposed that the report is the possession of the Government—and once a reference has been made, I think this house is entitled to see the report. When there is a dispute regarding the fact, I think the Prime Minister should make available that report to the house.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Sir, it is not under my custody and it has not been under my custody at any time. I heard about it. Perhaps the hon. Member who spoke first earlier said it was not two years ago but it was five years ago. Well, I cannot remember the exact date. Maybe three years ago or four years ago, I do not remember it, it is a long time now. I never had it, nor could I possibly take it from anybody. And do not agree with the hon. Member who just now spoke that because a reference is made here, therefore the report should be made available. Reference was made in this connection that many of these charges were put forward some years ago and at that time—it is my recollection—they were not considered of substance and the Congress Committee no doubt enquired into them but decided not to proceed further. I do not know what is meant by 'constructive responsibility'—I do not remember it. Something may have been said—constructive responsibility—but in the balance they said these had no great substance. However, this is not mentioned in the reply in any defence but the fact is that these things were considered some years ago and they are again being considered.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: May I know Sir, if it is the opinion of the Prime Minister that in spite of the wide powers vested by the Constitution in the Union Government and the President of India to supersede a State Government and to issue directive, the Prime Minister of India as Prime

Minister of India cannot go into such questions regarding a Chief Minister?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I do not speak either constitutionally or in some other capacity. Constitutionally I do not think the Prime Minister can take any steps. He can, of course, if he thinks that the conditions are fulfilled, submit his opinion to the President but if he is convinced and the President is convinced, only then can this question arise. But in other capacities it is certainly open to the Prime Minister to give his advice to anybody.

(*Interruption*)

MR.

CHAIRMAN: Next question.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Sir, the Prime Minister has made a wrong statement. Here is a report by Shri Shriman Narayan and press cutting of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's statement.

/y'

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI JAIRAMDAS DAULATRAM: On a point of order, Sir. I want to know whether hon. Members are entitled to disobey the Rules of Procedure of the House. Once the Chairman closes an item and takes up the next item, are we entitled to continue dealing with the closed item?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am quite sure they are not. They should obey the Chair. I am also happy to note that they do but the transition takes a little time.

12 NOON

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Sir, I request your—ruling on my point of order. If any Minister makes a wrong statement in the House, whether it is the right of an other Member to challenge that statement or not. If he has the right, then I say that the Prime Minister has made a wrong statement. The Report was submitted by Shri Shriman Narayan on May

19th, 1958 and the Prime Minister made a Press Statement on 4th June regarding this Report.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chandra Shekhar, you go a little slow. You first put a question and then you presume what the reply to that question is and you go on making a statement. That is wrong. It is not right, neither does the point of order stand.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Sir, I want your ruling on this point of order whether when a Minister makes a wrong statement, any Member has the right to challenge that statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But you did not wait for my reply; you proceeded to say something which was very wrong.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: He was only explaining his point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, he was saying what he would have said if I had permitted him to do so.

SHRI DAH'J VBHAI V. PATEL: We are interrupted by hon. Members on the other side. You are very kind ' and considerate, Sir, but the hon. Members interrupt us from the other side. There are so many Members on the other side who are assuming and abrogating your power and they are interrupting Members on this side.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If there are too many interruptions from any side, they are from your side, I hope that will not be done.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: Sir, may I submit to you, Sir, that . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. The Question Hour is over.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: Sir, it is not something relating to the questions. I only make a submission. You know we have to depend on you

for help and support for protecting and safeguarding the rights of individual Members. Shri Chandra Shekhar has pointed out that the Prime Minister has made a statement and that he has evidence to prove that what the Prime Minister has said is incorrect, that he has made an incorrect statement. Sir, we have to depend on you to help and support so that our rights are safeguarded and our stand is vindicated. If the hon. Member is able to prove that the Prime Minister has made a wrong statement, he should be given a chance to prove that the Prime Minister has made a wrong statement. We depend on you, Sir, to safeguard our rights.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: How can you deny that point of order? Is it not our right to have a ruling from the Chair? You should give your ruling on the point of order whether we have that right or not. I have raised a specific point of order, namely, whether if any hon. Minister makes a wrong statement, any Member has the right to challenge that statement or not.

MR. CHAIRMAN: My ruling is that he has the right to challenge it, but you cannot challenge it now because the Question Hour is over. You can do it at some other time.

We take up the Short Notice Question.

SHRI G. MURAHARI: I strongly protest against this sort of procedure, because this has nothing to do with the Question Hour. He has raised a specific point of order. There is a wrong statement by the Prime Minister and it should be taken up here and now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Murahari, you will consider your language when you say that you strongly protest against what the Chair has done.

SHRI G. MURAHARI: I take full responsibility for whatever statement I made because . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not supposed to do that, I hope you will learn.

SHRI G. MURAHARI: I am not speaking against your ruling. I am only saying that on this question, you should give your ruling. When the Prime Minister makes a wrong statement, can he get away with it? Either he should prove it or the other should be allowed the opportunity to prove it to be wrong.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am grateful to Mr. Murahari for telling me what I should do. I have given my ruling, and that is that if a Minister makes a wrong statement, any Member is entitled to challenge it. That is all. You can take some other opportunity to challenge it. The Question Hour is over and I will not allow it.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

IMPORT AND PRICE OF FERTILIZERS

6. SHRI N. C. KASLIWAL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give high priority in the matter of allocation of foreign exchange for importing fertilizers; and

(b) whether there is any proposal under consideration by Government to appoint a small expert committee to explore ways to reduce the price of fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM SINGH); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no such proposal to appoint an expert committee.

SHRI N. C. KASLIWAL: Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Minister for giving the answer "Yes" to part (a) of my question. But may I enquire whether the Ministry is considering

any proposal to see that to fertilizer is the first charge on the available credit and that inadequacy of credit facilities would not stand in the way of increased fertilizer production?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: Yes, we are considering the matter.

SHRI N. C. KASLIWAL: Distribution being one of the bottle-necks in the way of use of fertilizers, may I know whether the Government is considering any proposals to, streamline the distribution arrangements for fertilizers?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: Recently we have taken certain measures to improve the distribution of fertilizers and we have not received complaints this year about any bottlenecks. If the hon. Member has in mind any particular case, I shall look into the matter if he will give me the particulars.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Is the hon. Minister aware that only very recently, yesterday or the day before, one of the advisers to the Planning Commission, on manures, has expressed his opinion definitely against the encouraging of the use of fertilizers as against natural manures available in the country, saying that there are definite trends in the soil, some harmful trends in the soil, induced by the extra use of these fertilizers? If so, may I know how the hon. Minister is going to reconcile these two views?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: Sir, as you know, the total availability of fertilizers in our country is only to the tune of 4.7 lakh tons in terms of nitrogen, and we have about 350 million acres under the plough. I do not know how anybody who is familiar with agricultural conditions can say that this is a quantum which should be discouraged. I want to make it clear that in India we are having 440 million people and there may be some people who may give a contrary advice. But we are going to be

guided by practical advice which is going to be in the interest of the majority of the cultivators.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Sir, the whole problem reduces itself to simple mathematics. If you divide the total amount of nitrogen you are applying to the soil by the number of acres under the plough, that is the first fallacy and that is what I would like to point out. That is not how it has to be looked at. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether definite harmful trends have been noticed in areas where the application of fertilizers has been made.

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: The application of fertilizers has done more good than any harm.

SHRI N. C. KASLIWAL: Sir, in reply to part (b.) of my question, the hon. Minister has said that there is no such proposal. Then am I to understand that he is satisfied that the price of fertilizers is reasonable?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: By the reply "No" I do not mean that I am satisfied. I have asked my Ministry to examine the matter and see how to reduce the price of fertilizers.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PURCHASE OF AVRO-748 BY THE INDIAN AIRLINES CORPORATION

*658. SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state whether Avro-748 planes, now under manufacture in, the country, have been purchased to augment the Indian Airlines Corporation's fleet?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAGHURAMAIAH) : Not yet, Sir. The Indian Airlines Corporation have decided to purchase the AVRO-748 aircraft. Specific orders are awaited.