

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Government would announce it when they have anything to say.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know whether the Government is aware that when our troubles arose with Pakistan immediately after Pakistan came into being, this gentleman, mis-called His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad, gave Rs. 20 crores straightway through a London Bank to the Pakistan Government and when we are faced with an emergency in our own country, he is pleading his poverty in order to justify the petty miserable contribution that he made?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: It is a very wide question. About the point concerned at the present moment, I have already replied.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know after receiving the communication from the Nizam of Hyderabad whether the Government considered it and wrote to him any letter expressing its dissatisfaction at the manner in which the Nizam has responded to the call for donation to the National Defence Fund and making the Government's reaction known to the Nizam of Hyderabad whom they are paying Rs. 65 lakhs annually as privy purse and other allowances?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: We have expressed our indignation over the matter and will communicate our views also.

EXPANSION OF ROURKELA STEEL PLANT

*464. SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the details of expansion of the Rourkela Steel Plant has been worked out; and

(b) if so, what is the cost envisaged on the expansion?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The first preliminary estimate which has been included in the Plan document was Rs. 90 crores. The final estimate of cost is now being worked out.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: May I know how much will be the increase in capacity when this expansion is completed?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: At the moment the production of flat products is 7,20,000 tons per annum and after expansion it would be 12,40,000 tons.

SHRI A. D. MANI: On what basis is the foreign exchange portion of this project is going to be financed?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: As far as foreign exchange portion is concerned, it is hoped that we will get credit from the West German Government.

SHRI A. D. MANI: How much?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Whatever is necessary for it.

ARRESTS IN DELHI UNDER DEFENCE OF INDIA RULES

*465. SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of persons who have so far been arrested in Delhi under the Defence of India Rules?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARAGATHAM CHANDRASEKHAR): 35 persons have so far been arrested in Delhi under the Defence of India Rules, 1962. This number includes 9 persons who were detained under rule 30 of the said Rules and who have since been released.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that among the persons who were arrested in Delhi under the

Defence of India Rules there were three persons, namely, Mr. Roop Narain, Mr. Dharam Pal and Mr. N. N. Dutta? May I know the reason for which they have been arrested? What are the grounds for detention?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: Sir, I do not want to disclose the reasons because we do not do so generally.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: May I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to a statement made by Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan at a meeting held recently in Delhi to the effect that the arrest of the three Delhi leaders—Mr. Roop Narain, Mr. Dharam Pal and Mr. N. N. Dutta—who have since been released was unwarranted? He described as unfounded the allegation in certain quarters that they had acted against the interests of the country. Let the hon. Minister deny this.

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: If the statement made by Jayaprakash Narayanji was correct, why should they have been detained? I am sorry that Jayaprakashji and a few other leaders have not viewed these detentions in the correct perspective.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Is it a fact that the Home Minister was approached by certain Congress leaders, namely Mir Mushtaq Ahmad and Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali, for the arrest of these persons and that after their approach these persons were arrested?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: It is highly unfair to mention any names, especially names of those people who are not present in this House. I can say it as positively as possible that there was

absolutely no mention from either of these persons about their detention.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Is it a fact that these gentlemen were arrested for addressing a letter to Members of Parliament in which the Prime Minister was criticised?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: Again, I am sorry that this impression has gone round. They were arrested after twenty or twentyfive days—I do not exactly remember the number of days—but they were arrested much later. The letter was circulated when Parliament was in session. If they were to be arrested purely on the basis of that letter, they would have been arrested much earlier. So, the House can easily understand that there were other reasons also on the basis of which these detentions took place.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact—and it is a most tragic fact so far as Shastriji is concerned—that many people in the country are being arrested in the States on account of pressure by the Central Government, even though the State Governments do not think always that such people should be arrested in the interests of defence? May I know, Sir, a good man that he is, what steps Shastriji is taking with a view to dispelling such an impression gaining ground and seeing that this emergency is not taken political advantage of with a view to suppressing parties like the Communist Party?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: I can only say that I am at present in Government and not Shri Bhupesh Gupta. His information can only be correct when he is in a position to come over to this side and take up office.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Is it a fact that the Central Government is putting pressure on State Governments to

release certain communist leaders who have been arrested by State Governments?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He now says you ought to be on the other side.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It is a 64,000 dollar question.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: Considering the political life of these three people and also considering the long terms of imprisonment suffered by them during the national struggle, may I know whether the Home Minister is aware that these three people are as loyal at least as any one of us in this House?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: They must be loyal. I know they are very good people. But one does not know. Sometimes in an emotion or at the spur of the moment even a good person is apt to make mistakes.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Is it a fact that certain warrants of arrest against certain criminals in a dacoity-cum-murder case have been withdrawn by the U.P. Government on the advice of the Union Government?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. Mr. Ghani.

شادی عبدالغنی : کیا ہرم منسٹر
بتائیں گے کہ ان تیلوں کو جن کا نام
انصاری صاحب نے لیا یعنی روپ نرائن
دھرم پال اور دتا ان کو اس لئے گرفتار
کیا گیا کہ وہ تہمت کے بارے میں
گورنمنٹ کی پالیسی پر نکتہ چینی
کرتے تھے ؟

† श्री अब्दुल गनी : क्या होम मिनिस्टर
बतायेंगे कि उन तीनों को जिनका नाम
अन्सारी साहब ने लिया, यानि रूपनारायण,
धरमपाल और दत्ता, उनको इसलिये गिर-
फ्तार किया गया कि वे तिब्बत के बारे में

‡ [] Hindi transliteration.

गवर्नमेंट की पालिसी पर नुक्ताचीनी करते
थे ?]

श्री लाल बहादुर : वजूहात तो, मैंने
कहा, यहां बतलाना मुनासिब नहीं है और हम
बतलाते भी नहीं मगर कुछ तो कारण थे ही
जिसकी वजह से यह डिटेन्शन हुआ, गिर-
फ्तारी हुई ।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I read the speech the hon. Minister delivered in Madras about these arrests where he said that it should be done but there should not be any excesses in this case. Also, the Prime Minister's statement in the Press Conference on 31st December, I think, is there wherein he said that large numbers of arrests should not take place in any place and so on. May I know in view of these and also the latest developments whether the Government are still continuing these arrests and not releasing all those they have arrested so far and whether in the matter the Government is being provoked by certain parties who cannot fight the Communist Party on a political plan but are taking advantage of the Defence of India Rules in order to crush it?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: The Congress Party is strong enough. The hon. Member said . . .

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: He wishes to say that the Congress Party is being provoked by the Opposition to arrest communists.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Next question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will you allow a Half-an-Hour Discussion on this tomorrow?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.