

RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, the 8th May 1962/Vaisakha
1884 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock.
MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*290. [Transferred to the 10th May 1962]

IMPORT OF ANTIBIOTICS FROM POLAND

*291. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government or private parties have placed an order for Rs. 2,25,000 worth of antibiotics from Polish pharmaceutical industry; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the transaction?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

Private parties applied for import of antibiotics worth Rs. 6,91,666 from Poland, of which licence for the import worth Rs. 53,333 was issued. A statement giving the particulars of applications received by the State Trading Corporation of India, New Delhi is as follows :—

Date of contract between the Indian firm and Polish firm (M/s Ciech Ltd., Warsaw)	Item	Quantity in Kg.	Value (Rs.)	Remarks
<i>April to September 1962 period</i>				
4-8-1961	Oxytetracycline	50	53,333	Licence issued
<i>October, 1961 to March, 1962 period</i>				
6-10-1961	Tetracycline	300	1,59,000	Rejected
2-11-1961	Tetracycline	100	53,000	Rejected
6-11-1961	Tetracycline	100	53,000	Rejected
6-11-1961	Oxytetracycline	50	53,333	Rejected
20-11-1961	Oxytetracycline	300	3,20,000	Rejected

SHRI A. D. MANI: Sir, has Government made any enquiries from private parties whether these antibiotics would be secured from non-Communist sources or whether they could be manufactured in India?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: They are manufactured in India; they are manufactured all over the world.

MR. CHAIRMAN: They are manufactured here as elsewhere.

पाकिस्तान के डिप्टी हाई कमिशनर का मालदा जिले का दौरा

*२६२. श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अप्रैल, १९६२ में पाकिस्तान के डिप्टी हाई कमिशनर मालदा जिले में आये थे।

(ख) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क) का उत्तर 'हाँ' हो तो वे वहाँ किनने समय तक

रहे और उन्हें कितनी अवधि तक वहां रहने की अनुमति दी गई थी ; और

(ग) क्या उन्होंने वहां लोगों से मुलाकात की और क्या ऐसी मुलाकातें भारतीय अधिकारियों की उपस्थिति में की गई ?

† [VISIT OF DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PAKISTAN TO MALDA DISTRICT

*292. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Deputy High Commissioner for Pakistan visited Malda District in the month of April, 1962;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, for how long he stayed there and the period for which permission was given for his stay there; and

(c) whether he met the people there and whether such meetings took place in the presence of Indian officers?]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Pakistan Deputy High Commissioner was in the area for three days from the 5th to 7th April in accordance with the itinerary previously approved by the West Bengal Government.

(c) During his tour he was accompanied by the District Magistrate, and other local officers and generally his meetings with people in the area took place in the presence of these officers.

‡ [बंबेशिक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री लक्ष्मी एन० मेनन) : (क) जी हाँ ।

(ख) पश्चिम बंगाल सरकार द्वारा पूर्व-स्वीकृत कार्यक्रम के अनुसार, पाकिस्तान

के उप हाई कमिशनर ५ से ७ अप्रैल तक तीन दिनों के लिये इस क्षेत्र में रहे।

(ग) उनके दौरे की अवधि में जिलाधीश (डिस्ट्रिक्ट मजिस्ट्रेट) और अन्य स्थानीय अधिकारी उनके साथ थे और वे आमतौर से इन अधिकारियों की उपस्थिति में उक्त क्षेत्र के लोगों से मिले थे।]

श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान : क्या मंत्री महोदया ने संसद् की माननीय सदस्या श्रीमती रेणुका रे, एम० पी० का वह वक्तव्य देखा है जिसमें उन्होंने कहा है :

"It is my definite view that some incidents in the villages and those in the town of English Bazar were provoked by the action of the Deputy High Commissioner for Pakistan, more especially that of his First Secretary, when they visited Malda on 5th April."

तो कहां तक यह बात ठीक है जो श्रीमती रेणुका रे ने अपने वक्तव्य में कही है ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: We have also seen that report of the interview given by Shrimati Renuka Ray. It is quite possible, Sir, that the presence of these people and the interviews they might have given might have provoked those things.

श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान : क्या सरकार ने भी अपनी तरफ से इस बात को जांच की कि जो डिप्टी हाई कमिशनर वहां गये और उनके फर्स्ट सेक्रेटरी वहां गये, कहां तक वे लोग इस झगड़े के जिम्मेदार हैं ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, I have stated in the answer that the Deputy High Commissioner and the Secretary were accompanied by the District Magistrate and other police officers wherever they went.

श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान : क्या यह सच है कि पाकिस्तान के समाचार पत्रों में जो

एग्जैजरेटेड न्यूज दी गई उनकी दजह से अगड़े हुए ? तो क्या दोनों देशों के बीच जो एक जोइंट इन्फारमेशन एडवाइजरी कमेटी है जो कि ऐसे मामलों पर अपनी राय देती है ? अगर है तो क्या पाकिस्तान ने उसके नियमों का उल्लंघन नहीं किया ? अगर किया है तो सरकार ने इस बारे में क्या कदम उठाया है ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, it is a long question which I do not understand properly. If the hon. Member repeats it in English, I might be able to reply to it.

श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान : पाकिस्तान और हिन्दुस्तान के बीच एक जोइंट इन्फारमेशन एडवाइजरी कमेटी है जिसका कहना यह है कि कोई एग्जैजरेटेड न्यूज न दे । दोनों देशों में ...

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: It is true, Sir, that there is such a body, and the hon. Member as also other Members of the House know that the Agreement is not always respected and tendentious and exaggerated news items appear in the Pakistani press which really produce these events.

SHRI M. H. SAMUEL: Sir, a responsible Member of the other House has made a certain statement with regard to the visit of the Pakistan Deputy High Commissioner to Malda. It has been stated therein that he was responsible for some of the incidents in that area. Now would the Government consider the advisability of investigating into the activities of this Pakistan Deputy High Commissioner in Malda, particularly because I find from the newspapers that the Pakistan Government is trying to investigate into the activities of the Indian Deputy High Commissioner who had gone to Rajshahi?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, we have received a detailed report from the officers and also from the

West Bengal Government about the events in Malda and West Dinajpur, and also the Home Minister of the West Bengal Government as well as the Governor had visited the place. The events mentioned took place before these people went there. It is true that the Deputy High Commissioner interviewed these people and perhaps asked for more interviews than were scheduled according to the original programme. What is the second part of the question?

SHRI M. H. SAMUEL: About investigation into his activities.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, I do not really know why anybody should investigate into what is happening in India, because the Government of India is responsible for the protection of all its citizens and Pakistan has no responsibility in the matter. We agreed to their going there because it is just a normal thing for anybody who wants to visit that place.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Is it not a fact that the First Secretary of the High Commission addressed meetings organised in mosques in which no district official was present and, if so, why was he allowed to address such meetings exclusively?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, it is true that he went into a mosque saying he was going there for prayers, and naturally non-Muslims are not allowed or admitted in the mosques for prayers; and I do not know whom he addressed there.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Are we to understand that there are no Muslims in the Central Intelligence or the State Intelligence in West Bengal? Why were they not asked to be present there at the time when the First Secretary addressed the Muslim meetings?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I have already stated, Sir, that it was not a part of the scheduled programme.

SHRI RAMPRASANNA RAY: May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the desirability of **not** permitting members of the Pakistan High Commission on future occasions to visit areas of alleged communal disturbances as, it seems, such visits encourage a particular community to look up to them, instead of the Government of India, for protection?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Sir, I do not think it would be desirable for us to say that they should not go there because that will give rise to the impression that we are trying to hide some things. And that would apply equally to the members of our diplomatic Missions visiting some place in Pakistan. I might mention, Sir, that I propose, in the course of perhaps two days, to make a brief statement about certain facts, such facts as we know, about Malda as well as about Dacca and Rajshahi. It is very difficult to get all the facts, because all kinds of exaggerated statements are made. Now about Murshidabad some most extraordinary statements were made in the Pakistani press—a thousand persons being killed and 500 girls being abducted. A Pakistani newspaper appearing in Dacca sent its correspondent, and he wrote in his paper that he found nothing at all in Murshidabad. The only thing that happened was some excitement about some election in which both the candidates were Muslims—no question of anybody being killed or abducted. Now the odd thing is that this thing appeared in the "Pakistan Observer"—I think it is so called. The Editor has stated that he does not agree with this. It is very odd that their own correspondent goes and reports, after seeing the place, that there is nothing. Possibly under pressure it has been withdrawn or contradicted. So, I hope to make a brief statement about the facts, such as we know them. We do not know all the facts. About Malda we know all the facts but about Rajshahi all kinds of reports and rumours come to us and many of them also appeared in the Calcutta press. But we do not want to make ourselves res-

ponsible for something which we do not know, more or less, to have occurred.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, whether, in view of the fact that certain very exaggerated and highly misleading reports have appeared in the Pakistani press the Government have asked the Deputy High Commissioner, who was accompanied by the Indian officials, to contradict such reports and state the truth? I ask this question, Sir, because it would be open to the Government of India, having given these facilities to the Pakistan Deputy High Commissioner, to ask him to make a statement of facts and see that such things are not reported in the manner in which they are being reported in the Pakistani press. May I know whether this was done? In this connection, Sir, I would also like to know whether the consent of the Government of India was sought by the State Government before allowing—I am not opposed to his going there—the Deputy High Commissioner of Pakistan to go to Malda. This is an important matter because here was the Deputy High Commissioner who went there accompanied by Government officials. I would like to know whether the Government officials there discussed the matter with the Deputy Commissioner and said, "Let us sit together and put down what we have seen in writing before we issue statements, especially for the consumption of the Pakistani press."?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: The hon. Member has asked two questions. The first was . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: The second question you remember.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I am sorry. When several questions are put, I am confused. The hon. Member is mixing up two entirely different

questions. The West Bengal Government sought our permission? I cannot positively say, possibly they might have. But they have our general instructions that when they think it right, they should give permission. These are general instructions. And the only question that arises is not of giving or not giving permission, but of giving it at the right time. We do not wish to keep them away because as I said previously, we do not want to hide anything. But sometimes when at wrong times a person goes, it creates trouble as perhaps it did. The other question was as to why we did not ask . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: To put it in writing.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: . . whether we asked him to contradict certain statements in the press. I do not know, I do not think we asked him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is going to make a statement.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I appreciate the Prime Minister's attitude . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Babubhai Chinai.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Let me ask one question. Will you allow me..

*293. [The questioner (Shri Babubhai Chinai) was absent. For answer, vide Cols. 2161-62 infra.]

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS ON THE KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES COMMISSION

*294. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to reconstitute the Khadi and Village Industries Commission;

(b) if reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether it is proposed to include a representative of the Ministry of Finance and another

representative of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on the Commission; and

(c) whether it is proposed to appoint an official Member-Secretary of the Commission?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) to (c) The Estimates Committee have made certain recommendations in regard to the reconstitution of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission and they are under consideration.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know by what time a decision is likely to be taken on the recommendations of the Estimates Committee?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Well, in a matter of a few weeks.

SHRI JAI NARAIN VYAS: Is it in the knowledge of the Government that only habitual khadi wearers can be on the Commission because they have to control the Khadi Boards in the different States? And while selecting members from the Secretariat or some other place, will they take into consideration that only khadi wearers are to be on the Commission?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: As a matter of fact, the remarks of the Estimates Committee have been sent to the Commission for their comments. After the comments are received, we will consider that.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know if there is any proposal to combine the Handloom Board, the Handicrafts Board and the Silk Board together with this Khadi Commission?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: No, Sir. There is no such proposal.

STOPPAGE OF DOLES OF DISPLACED PERSONS IN WEST BENGAL

*295. SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND