

के लिये मेसर्स हिन्दुस्तान फोटो फिल्म मेन्यू-फैकचरिंग क० एक प्रायोजना अमल में ला रही है।

(ख) योजना को अमल में लाने के लिये अब तक नीचे लिखे कदम उठाये जा चुके हैं :-

१. एक फ्रान्सीसी फर्म के साथ प्राविधिक सहयोग के लिये करार पर हस्ताक्षर हो गये हैं।
२. भूमि प्राप्त कर ली गई है।
३. बिजली और पानी की व्यवस्था हो गयी है।
४. मशीनें भेजने वालों को आर्डर दिये जा चुके हैं।]

**IMMUNITY CLAIMED BY AN OFFICER OF
THE INDIAN HIGH COMMISSION IN
LONDON**

*313. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an officer of the Indian High Commission in London has claimed diplomatic immunity in an action for slander against him;

(b) if so, what are the details of the charges against this officer; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to resolve the dispute?

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

(b) The plaintiff who is an Indian Doctor in London alleged that the Education Adviser in the Indian High Commission, London had called him an "undesirable" person, but the latter denied the said allegation.

(c) Head of the Indian Mission in London did not waive diplomatic im-

munity because slander alleged was during performance of official duties. Waiver of immunity in such cases would gravely prejudice efficiency of officers in performing essential duties.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: What is the answer, Sir? Could I have a gist of it? A gist would do.

MR. CHAIRMAN: As briefly as he talks.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: It is a short answer, Sir. The officer is alleged to have referred to a Doctor as an undesirable person and then he was used for slander. We have claimed diplomatic immunity for the officer. That is the answer.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: May I know whether such a remark was made and also whether the services were terminated on account of this?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Whose services? Nobody's services have been terminated.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: It is said that she was in the service of . . .

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: It is not she, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is 'he'.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: He or she, whatever it may be; I have read it in the paper as she but it may be he also. I want to know whether he has been turned out from the place where he was working?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: He is still in service. He is under the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: If he is already in service, then what is the use of going in for this kind of action that he has been slandered and has been misbehaving?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I do not know whom the hon. Member refers to. There are two people

involved, a Doctor and an officer of the Mission. I do not know to whom he refers.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: I am referring to the Doctor.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The Doctor is not in the service of the Government of India.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: As far as the question of diplomatic immunity is concerned, it follows certain conventions and rules and, therefore, the question of claiming it arises automatically unless the Government decides to waive this claim in this matter. May I know whether, in settling this issue, the case was decided on merits by the Government of India and whether lawyers were also consulted by the Government of India in order to see as to what should be its attitude with regard to this diplomatic immunity business?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: The Government of India is not in favour of individuals claiming diplomatic immunity for personal charges against its officials. In this matter diplomatic immunity was claimed. As a matter of fact, normally the Commonwealth Relations Office itself, without even a reference to us, informs the courts that this is a case of diplomatic immunity if it is in that list. In this matter it was claimed. I do not think, as far as I remember, before it was claimed any reference was made to the Government of India here. They thought it to be a fit case. Then the case came up and then there was a long gap. Why? I do not know. I think Dr. Rozario came to India and when he went back, the case was revived. This claim was made and the case was dismissed by the High Court in London chiefly, I believe, on the ground of immunity. I do not know what the hon. Member further wants. Our instructions now are that no diplomatic immunity should be claimed without reference first to the Government of India.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: I think the Minister of External Affairs has raised some confusion in this matter. As I know, Sir,...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Put a question.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: The Doctor involved was working in a hostel managed by the Indian High Commission and there was some dispute between the member in charge of the hostel and the Doctor and then this diplomatic immunity was claimed. Now, this Doctor, who is himself an Indian, goes on making a lot of propaganda against the Government of India and the High Commission in London. I would like to know what action has been taken to stop this propaganda and also whether the Government of India has taken any initiative to make some sort of peace between the two officers of the same High Commission.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Dr. Ghose is not an officer of the Government but he was allowed at one time to visit the hostel. It was then found that he utilised his visits to make very derogatory remarks about the Indian High Commission, etc., and against Dr. Rozario. Dr. Rozario said something derogatory to him apparently which he calls slander and he was told not to come to that hostel. All these are minor things.

PIRATE RADIO STATION IN NEPAL

*314. **SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Nepal has requested the Government of India to help to locate a pirate radio station; and

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the request of the Nepalese Government?

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