

the suggestion had been made that the arrangements were not adequate. Then how did the Prime Minister discover two trends in the matter?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: If the hon. Member had read the correspondence columns in the various newspapers, he would have known the trends of public opinion either way.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: Is the hon. Minister aware that the Communist Party had boycotted—I think—a party that was given in honour of the Queen at Bombay?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is another question altogether. We are not dealing with what happened in Bombay. We are now dealing with Mr. S. C. Deb. Next question

**INDIAN CORRESPONDENTS KEPT OUT OF THE PRESS RECEPTION HELD AT KARACHI IN HONOUR OF THE QUEEN**

•412. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian correspondents were kept out of the Press reception held in honour of Queen Elizabeth at Karachi on 3rd February during her visit to Pakistan; and

(b) if so, whether Government are aware of the reasons therefor and whether they have taken up that matter with the Government of Pakistan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Yes, Sir. But the reception was held on the 2nd February, 1961 and not 3rd February, 1961.

(b) Normally, the choice of guests at such functions is the privilege of the host country and it would hardly be graceful for us to protest.

SHRI S. C. DEB: May I know, Sir, whether our Government noticed this

and whether they have taken any action regarding that refusal?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, I have already stated in the latter part of my answer that it is not graceful on our part to protest if the host country decides to invite people of its choice.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Is it a fact that a number of correspondents of the vernacular press were kept out of these functions whenever invitations were issued to press correspondents?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Is it in Pakistan?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question relates to Karachi.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: I am sorry, Sir; I should have mentioned India. Is it a fact that a number of correspondents of the vernacular press, were kept out of the functions connected with the visit of Queen Elizabeth to India when invitations were sent to press correspondents?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, in all these parties the invitations were restricted to only persons who were covering the Queen's visit.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, if the Press Information Bureau of the Government of India was represented there, at that function and, if so, whether the Publicity Department of the Government of India gave adequate publicity to the statement by the Queen after having visited India and while in Pakistan at Karachi that Pakistan's political system was very good? This is a question relating to the reception held in Karachi to the press, and the question is raised whether all the press representatives of India were invited or not, and, if not, why not.

MR. CHAIRMAN: She says the host country is at liberty to choose whom to invite or not. It has nothing to

do with what the Queen is alleged to have said about the political system, etc.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Can I make it clear? It is the job of the Government—we do not go to Karachi—to keep us informed if the private press has failed to do so, and when they get the information, then they should give proper publicity to it, so that, we are informed of what took place at the reception. We do not suffer on account of some people not being present.

*(No reply.)*

SHRI A. D. MANI: Would Government consider drawing the attention of the Government of Pakistan that in India we have made no such discrimination in the matter of issuing invitations to the press and that we invited all persons, who were covering the Queen's visit, to attend the reception?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, the fact of the matter is that the names of Indian correspondents were originally included in the list of invitees, but then Pakistani journalists threatened to walk out of that reception if Indians were invited for the simple reason that no Pakistani journalists were included in the list of invitees to the reception held in New Delhi on the 21st of January, 1961. For this function a list of invitees was prepared by a special committee of officials, and since the number had to be restricted, and no senior Pakistani journalists were present, they were not invited.

#### SALE OF CAMPHOR IN RAJASTHAN

\*413. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one Kraya Vikraya Sangh in Rajasthan was given a permit for import of camphor;

(b) if so, whether any complaints were received by Government re-

garding sale of camphor in black market by the Sangh; and

(c) whether any such complaint was enquired into and if so, with what result?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA) : (a) While no permit for import of camphor was given, the State Trading Corporation had issued synthetic camphor to Rajasthan Rajya Sahakari Kraya Vikraya Sangh limited for manufacture of tablets and retail sale.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

' SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: May I know, Sir, what quantity of camphor was imported by the said Sangh and how it disposed of it?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: The Sangh did not import any quantity. I have stated in the answer that the State Trading Corporation imported some camphor. It was given to the various co operative societies in the States for distribution to the people; 1J tons of camphor were allotted by the State Trading Corporation to the Sangh for distribution in Rajasthan.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: May I know, Sir, whether the State Trading Corporation or the Government of India or the State Governments issue the permits?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: The State Trading Corporation is the sole importer of camphor at present. A small quantity is imported. Some quantity is distributed to industries like the medicinal industry or the plastics industry which require camphor, and the rest is tableted, packed and distributed through co-operative agencies.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: How is it distributed? Is it distributed on the orders of the State Government, or on the initiative of the State Trading