

by the American Ambassador in June last that these officers were invited and allowed to see our army installations ?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : I am not aware of any speeches made by the American Ambassador, but if the hon. Member wants information on the point, I suggest him to put a question to the External Affairs Ministry.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : How is it that the Defence Ministry is unaware of the speech of such an important officer as the American Ambassador ?

THE MINISTER FOR REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE (SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI) : Our boys in the Army are patriotic enough not to be dissuaded by.....

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, order.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND : I just wanted for elucidation to know whether the spelling of 'sight' is *site* or *sight*.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA : May I know whether the officer concerned—I mean the officer responsible for extending personal invitation in his personal capacity—was within his right to issue that type of invitation ?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : Of course.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA : What are the rules of the Government for the guidance of these officers so far as strategic matters are concerned ?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : As I have said, Sir, the security of the State is the first consideration and these officers do not act in a manner which affects the security of the State in any way. But so far as their private life is concerned, I am afraid the Government cannot have any control over that.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA : Is the officer on duty supposed to be indulging in private affairs ?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : Well Sir, you cannot get over the fact that there are times when he attends to his official duties and there are also times when he is not on duty.

SHRI H. D. RAJAH : Will the Government consider the desirability of shutting out these officers—whether they are Americans or Russians or any other foreign officers—having access to our military installations ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is a suggestion for future action.

POLICE SEARCHES IN CUTTACK

*52. SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY : (a) Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether investigation carried on by the Special Investigation Department regarding allegations against Eastern Mercantile Corporation of Cuttack has been completed ;

(b) If so, will the Minister please refer to his reply to starred question No. 66 in the first session of the Council of States and supply the information asked for in that question.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR) : (a) The preliminary inquiries have been completed.

(b) Since the action of the police in conducting the searches is *sub judice* before the Orissa High Court, it would not be proper to furnish any further details.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Sir, we ask for the protection of the Chair. Last time when the question was put, it was under investigation. Now the investigation has been completed, and the Government say that the case is *sub judice*. But the matter which has been referred to the High Court is the validity or otherwise of the searches. I think the Chair should give us protection to elicit the information. We are asking for the purpose

of the searches. It is the most important matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The preliminary inquiries have been completed. It does not say that the whole inquiry has been completed. I am stating the answer. Since the action of the police in conducting the searches is still *sub judice* in the Orissa High Court, it would not be proper to furnish any further details.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : We don't want the hon. Minister to give an opinion on the validity or otherwise of the matter which is under reference in the High Court. What we want is information regarding the search itself. I am sure the hon. Minister for Home Affairs who is an eminent lawyer will agree with me that it would not be violating the sanctity of the High Court if he said something about the search itself.

SHRI B. RATH : No case is before the High Court which has been started by the Eastern Mercantile Corporation. Certain private individuals have started cases of defamation against certain papers and the Eastern Mercantile Corporation is nowhere in the picture. Under the circumstances the answer given that the case is *sub judice* in the Orissa High Court is wrong according to me. Secondly I want to know whether the investigation report has been received by the Government on the 15th August this year, and if so, will they please lay a copy of the report on the Table?

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have more information than Government.

SHRI B. RATH : Because one of the ex-Ministers has reported that he has received a copy of the investigation report.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is there any answer from Government to that?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : No, Sir. I may point out a few circumstances to

show that we cannot place the result of the enquiry before this House at this stage. Certain complaints had been received that the conditions of certain import licences had been violated and therefore a preliminary enquiry in a non-legal sense was started. It was not a preliminary enquiry by a magistrate but it was an enquiry preliminarily started by the police to see whether any offences have been committed or whether any case should be registered at all. Now in the course of this, certain searches were made with the orders of the magistrates concerned. Now this matter is before the Orissa High Court. So far as the Orissa High Court is concerned, the matter is still pending and, secondly, the case has to be looked at as a whole and, therefore, Government regret their inability to give any further information on the contents of these complaints.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Is it a fact that another condition going against giving further information is that Mr. Harekrushna Mahtab is involved in the matter?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, order.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : Orders of the Orissa High Court have been passed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question.

FEMALE EDUCATION IN ANDAMANS

*53. SHRIMATI SAVITRY NIGAM: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) the facilities which Government have provided for female education in the Andaman Islands and the number of girls' schools run by the local administration and the public therein ;

(b) the total number of school-going girls in the Andamans ;

(c) whether domestic science is taught in those schools; if not, why not ;