

any such inference from my speech in the United Nations. Probably, he has been influenced by certain press comments that came after my speech.

**Shri Vasudevan Nair:** You were silent; you did not say anything.

**Shri Swaran Singh:** We have taken the view that Vietnam is a problem which is not a United Nations' problem. The entire procedure of the International Control Commission and several other steps that are being taken there is the creature of the Geneva Agreement and, therefore, the United Nations Organisation is not concerned with that. This has been the practice and even the distinguished representative of India, the leader of the Indian Delegation there, who used to lead Delegations before I had the honour to do so always took the view that in the United Nations we should not talk of Vietnam.

**Shri Kapur Singh:** In the event of a meeting taking place between our Prime Minister and the President of U.S.A., does our Prime Minister propose to make it clear beyond ambiguity that India regards U.S.A. friendship as vital to her foreign policy?

**Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri:** It is not necessary to clarify it at all.

**Shri Sham Lal Saraf:** Sometime back our Prime Minister had said that he would be visiting the United States when the climate was ripe for doing so. May I know if Government can say at the moment categorically that the climate, at present, is ripe for our Prime Minister to meet the President of the United States and to thrash our matters where we may have differed?

**Shri Swaran Singh:** If our Prime Minister has decided to go as he has, it is on this presumption that the visit will yield useful results.

**Shri Brajeshwar Prasad:** Is my impression correct that the Prime Minister is willing to talk about Kashmir with President Johnson and not with Mr. Kossygin at Tashkent?

**Shri Swaran Singh:** No Sir. The presumption of the hon. Member is not correct.

**Shri Narendra Singh Mahida:** May I know whether the Prime Minister will visit London also on his way to Washington?

**Mr. Speaker:** Why ask this? Shri Alvares.

**Shri Alvares:** In view of the infructuous nature of the American President's assurance to India that American arms given to Pakistan would not be used against us, may I know the nature of the guarantees that he will ask from the American President against such future contingencies?

**Mr. Speaker:** Why should he bind the hands of the Government by asking such a question now? Shri Hem Barua.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I know from the hon. Prime Minister if it is a fact that he has been invited to visit some of the Latin American countries also and, if so, may I know whether he proposes to visit the Latin American countries that offer virgin soil of sympathy for us, in the near future or during his visit to the U.S.A.?

**Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri:** As far as I know, I have not received any formal invitation from the Latin American countries. Informally, of course, it is often said, but at present I have no idea of visiting the Latin American countries, but certainly I would love to go there later on.

#### Anti-Indian Propaganda by the British Press

(4)

\*266. **Shri Madhu Limaye:**

**Shri Bagri:**

**Shri D. C. Sharma:**

**Shri D. D. Puri:**

**Shri S. N. Chaturvedi:**

**Shri Hem Barua:**

**Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:**

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the invariably anti-Indian

and pro-Pakistani tone of the British newspaper despatches on fighting between Pakistan and India in August-September, 1965; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Publicity Section of the Indian High Commission in London to counter this propaganda?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Careful assessment of published despatches in the British newspapers on the fighting between Pakistan and India in August and September, 1965 shows that while it would not be entirely incorrect to say that the tone of the British Press had been generally anti-Indian and pro-Pakistani, it would not be correct to say that it was invariably so. There were noticeable exceptions particularly in the sober section of the British Press.

(b) The publicity section of the High Commission, London, took prompt and effective steps to counter anti-Indian despatches in the British Press and exposed false statements made by the Pakistani Government to correspondents of British papers. This was done by issuing immediate contradictions to such statements, by briefing the Press regularly, Press Conferences, T.V. interviews etc.

Shri Kapur Singh: I rise on a point of order arising out of the reply which the hon. Minister read just now.

Mr. Speaker: It is not a point of order that he wants to raise; that would be a supplementary.

श्री मधु लिमये : क्या सरकार को इस बात का पता है कि 6 सितम्बर, तक कच्छ और कश्मीर आदि मामलों पर भारत सरकार की जो कमजोर नीति रही उस के फलस्वरूप अधिकतर अंग्रेजी अखबार एक नुष्ठता और हिंकार की दृष्टि से भारत की ओर देखते थे और इस सिलसिले में मैं बाद बिलाना चाहता हूँ मंत्री महोदय को एक उदाहरण देकर कह रहा हूँ ....

अध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य सवाल करें।

श्री मधु लिमये : संडे टाइम्स ने कहा था कि हिन्दुस्तानी लोग बलर्की लोग हैं यह सड़ नहीं सकते हैं ....

अध्यक्ष महोदय : सवाल क्या है ?

श्री मधु लिमये : सवाल यह है कि इस कमजोरी को जब तक दूर नहीं किया जाता तब तक हमारे प्रचार में जान नहीं आयेगी। एक साप्ताहिक पत्र एकोनामिस्ट ने लिखा था ...

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब इस में मैं कैसे जा सकता हूँ ?

श्री मधु लिमये : मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि साप्ताहिक एकोनामिस्ट ने कहा था कि अगर हिन्दुस्तान ने पाकिस्तान की फौजी ताकत पर जबरदस्त चोट की होती तो सारे पश्चिमी देश हिन्दुस्तान के हक में हो जाते इसलिये मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे प्रचार में और हमारी ताकत में क्या कोई मेलजोल रखने का प्रयास किया जायेगा ?

श्री विनेश सिंह : दोनों मजबूत हैं।

श्री मधु लिमये : उन्होंने कहा कि "सोबर" अखबार ने ऐसा नहीं लिखा था। लेकिन संडे टाइम्स को "सोबर" माना जाता है और बहुत गंभीर बातें उस में छपती हैं मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि विदेशी अखबार के संवाददाताओं और देशी संवाददाताओं को हमारी ओर से क्या मुविद्याएँ दी गई थीं कि वह तड़ाई के मदान में जा कर देखें कि किस तरह हिन्दुस्तान की फौज मड़ रही है ?

श्री विनेश सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय मुझे लगता है कि माननीय सदस्य संडे टाइम्स को बहुत अच्छे तरीके से पढ़ते हैं। जहाँ तक इस अखबार का सवाल है

और जिसका कि उन्होंने जिक्र किया तो मैं भी इस अखबार में से एक कोटेशन माननीय सदस्य को इत्तिहा के लिए पढ़ देना चाहता हूँ। . . . .

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** मैं तो उन को ही अखबार से कोटेशन देने के वास्ते मना कर रहा था अब आप भी अखबार से कोट करना चाहते हैं तो यह कैसे हो सकता है ?

**Shri Shinkre :** Is it 'London Times'? But he has referred to some other paper.

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** वह लंदन टाइम्स कह रहे हैं।

**श्री बागड़ी :** मैं लंदन वासियों से मिला हूँ और इस नाते कहना चाहता हूँ कि प्रचार का असर सिर्फ मंत्री के दिमाग पर नहीं अपितु जो विलायत में रहने वाली भारतीय जनता है उन के मन के ऊपर क्या असर पड़ता है ? प्रधान मंत्री ने भी वहाँ मीटिंग की थी और उन्होंने भी इसे माना था कि वहाँ पर गलत कार्य हो रहा है और बिल्कुल विपरीत जा रहा है तो मैं सिर्फ एक बात जानना चाहूँगा कि यह तमाम अमरीका और बरतानिया के असर के मूलक और उनकी सरकारें और के सवाल पर हिन्दुस्तान का साथ इस बिना पर नहीं देती थी कि प्रचार खिलाफ था तो क्या भारत सरकार इस प्रचार को रोकने के लिए सिर्फ अपनी कमजोर नीति को दबाने के लिए कहती है कि प्रचार नहीं होता था या वह ऐसा कर्म करने को तैयार है जिससे कि जिला प्रचार करने वालों को भी अपनी शिकायत का पता लगे और वह कुछ इस बात के बारे में जान सकें ?

**श्री विनेश सिंह :** अध्यक्ष महोदय मैं इस का क्या उत्तर दूँ।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** मुझ तो खूब समझ में नहीं आया है।

**श्री बागड़ी :** क्या मैं समझा दूँ।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** अगर माननीय सदस्य अपने सवाल को समझायेगे, तो उस के लिए दस मिनट चाहिये। मुझे यह पाबन्दी लगानी होगी कि जो सप्लीमेंटरी क्वेश्चियन किया जाये, वह एक मिनट से ज्यादा न हो।

**श्री बागड़ी :** क्या यह पाबन्दी सिर्फ मेरे लिये है ?

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** नहीं, सब के लिए है। आर्युमेंट्स दी जायें, क्वेश्चन्स दी जायें, यह एक सप्लीमेंटरी क्वेश्चियन का काम नहीं है। यहाँ बजह है कि हम सवाल में आगे नहीं बढ़ सकते।

**श्री बागड़ी :** जब मैंने सवाल पूछा है, तो यह पायन्ती आ गई है। वर्ना मैं ने देखा है कि क्वेश्चियन आकर खत्म हो गया और रंगा साहब ने डुरक सवाल पर सवाल किया।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** माननीय सदस्य रंगा साहब से किसी और वक्त भगड़ लें।

**श्री बागड़ी :** मैं रंगा साहब से नहीं हागड़ता हूँ। मैं तो यह चाहता हूँ कि रंगा साहब को—और सब माननीय सदस्यों को—मीका मिले।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** माननीय सदस्य अपना सप्लीमेंटरी पूछें।

**श्री बागड़ी :** मेरा सवाल यह है कि क्या मंत्री महोदय को यह खबर मालूम है कि वहाँ के प्रचार अफसर, श्री गुप्ता, से हिन्दुस्तानी प्रतिनिधियों ने सवाल किया कि क्या फ़ाजिल्का सैक्टर के बारे में बात चल रही है, तो उन्होंने कहा कि मुझे पता नहीं है कि फ़ाजिल्का कहाँ है और उन लोगों ने उन के विरोध में वहाँ के वृत्तावास को लिखा।

श्री विनेश सिंह : मुझे तो इस का जवाब नहीं है ।

श्री बागड़ी : कैसे पता होगा ? यहाँ पर बैठ कर मुझे से बात करते हैं ।

**Shri S. N. Chaturvedi:** Apart from the tone of the British newspapers, may I know whether there was also distortion of facts in the British press and the British Government also lent a helping hand in this matter; if so, whether Government took up the matter with that Government and made a protest about their attitude as also about the distortion of facts?

**Shri Dinesh Singh:** In the body of the reply to the main question I have said that the British press had generally been unfriendly to us, and we had taken this matter up with the individual editors, since the press is free in the United Kingdom, and we saw some noticeable changes also.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I know whether it is not a fact that the British press had virtually blacked out the Indian version of the Indo-Pakistani conflict during those crucial days of Pakistani aggression on our territory and had given wide publicity to Pakistan's fantastic claims, and if so, whether our Government had tried to probe into the reasons, both political and psychological, why the British press had behaved in such an odd way whether it was because the British press....

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. He cannot lengthen the question any further....

**Shri Hem Barua:** I want to know whether the British press wanted to conform to the line taken by the British....

**Mr. Speaker:** If hon. Members go on in this manner, then I shall have to ask the hon. Minister to reply to only the first portion of the question.

**Shri Hem Barua:** My question does not have any portions; it is only one portion; it is a comprehensive whole.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Let the hon. Minister answer the question now.

**Shri Dinesh Singh:** Without going into the question of motives and other things which the hon. Member has said, which may be true, I would also say this that in the beginning the British press had given the Pakistani version because to some extent Pakistan in planning the aggression was, as well, able to plan the the propaganda drive, whereas we were not planning any aggression, and, therefore, there was no question of our taking the press to the front etc. which the Pakistanis had done, but later on this was exposed and the same newspapers which had brought out anti-Indian propaganda went on to correct it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri Venkatasubbarah.

**Shri Hem Barua:** On a point of order.

**Mr. Speaker:** I would again and again request hon. Members not to raise points of order during question hour.

**Shri Hem Barua:** I wish to make a humble submission to you.

**Mr. Speaker:** I would submit most respectfully to hon. Members that if a record were taken of all the points of order raised during the question hour, if not 99.999 per cent, at least 99 per cent of them would be found not points of order at all. Under these circumstances, would they not just comply with my request that no points of order might be raised during the question hour?

**Some hon. Members:** Yes, Sir.

**Shri Hem Barua:** What about humble submissions?

**Mr. Speaker:** When an additional supplementary is attempted, that is usually done through a point of order.

श्री बागड़ी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, व्यवस्था का प्रश्न तो हर वक्त उठाया जा सकता है और उस को उठाने देना चाहिये ।

**Mr. Speaker:** We have already spent 47 minutes in the question hour and are still on the fourth question. I told the House—and the House has accepted it also—that at least 10 questions should be covered during question hour.

**Shri P. Venkatasubbalah:** Has the attention of Government been drawn to the fact that British Newspapers have refused to publish a statement by one of our elder statesmen, Dr. C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer? If so, has our High Commission taken any steps to give adequate publicity to that statement?

**Shri Dinesh Singh:** I am not aware of that.

**श्री रामेश्वरानन्द :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे पास ब्रिटेन में स्थित दो भारतीय नागरिकों के पत्र आये हैं। उन्होंने उन पत्रों में स्पष्ट लिखा है कि हमारी सरकार और वहाँ पर हमारे दूतावास की तरफ से अपना प्रचार वहाँ के भारतीयों तक भी नहीं पहुँचाया जा रहा है, ब्रिटेन के नागरिकों की तो बात ही क्या है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या विदेश मंत्रों हमारे संप्रचार का वहाँ के नागरिकों तक पहुँचाने का यत्न करेंगे और अब तक जहाँ पर जो प्रचार किया गया है, उस का उल्लेख इन पत्रों में किया गया है, उस की जाँच करेंगे।

**श्री बिनेश सिंह :** जी हाँ। हम लोग निरन्तर कोशिश करते रहते हैं। जो कमी इस बारे में होगी, हम उस को दूर करने की पूरी कोशिश करेंगे।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** माननीय सदस्य कहते हैं कि ब्रिटेन में जो भारतीय हैं, वे भी यह कहते हैं कि वहाँ पर हमारी तरफ से प्रचार ठीक नहीं हो रहा है।

**श्री रामेश्वरानन्द :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर दिया जाये।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा है कि माननीय सदस्य ने जो कुछ कहा है, उस को करने का पूरा यत्न किया जायेगा।

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** Is it not a fact that after a momentary pause after the cease fire, even now subtly or otherwise, the British press and BBC are giving a helping hand to Pakistan and publishing and broadcasting material against India? Has any assessment been made of that or not?

**Shri Dinesh Singh:** That is, unfortunately, the British point of view.

**Shri Hem Barua:** On a point of order now. . .

**Shri Swell:** We on this side should also have some chance. We have been standing again and again but do not get a chance.

**Mr. Speaker:** Every time he cannot be called.

**Shri Swell:** On a point of order. It is a legitimate right for us to ask a question. . .

**Mr. Speaker:** What shall I do if I am held up in this manner? They should appeal to those Members.

**Shri Hem Barua:** In reply to my question, the hon. Deputy Minister said that the British press behaved in that odd way because Pakistan had organised not only the aggression against us but also propaganda in Britain against us. In reply to Shri Azad's question, the hon. Deputy Minister has just now said that he agreed with his view that the British press has been behaving in that odd way till now. Is there not a certain contradiction between the two replies? Where do you find the affinity between the two?

**Mr. Speaker:** I do not find any contradiction.

I might just tell Members again that there is also an other remedy available to me. That is, that such Members who raise points of order often, and I find them not points of order—I would not say frivolous—such Members shall not be able to catch my eye. That is the only other remedy with me.

#### Foreign Correspondents

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\*361. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:**

**Shri D. D. Puri:**

**Shri S. N. Chaturvedi:**

**Shri Hem Barua:**

**Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:**

(a) whether any assessment has been made as to what extent the correspondents of foreign newspapers and news agencies working in India and Pakistan were objective and gave adequate and accurate news about the fighting between India and Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the result of such assessment?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the initial stages of the fighting, because of difficulties in getting to the front, the presentation of news was not balanced and realistic. Later, however, except for deliberate misreporting on the part of some correspondents, the reporting by and large was objective.

The correspondents in Pakistan were influenced by the fact of accessibility to the fighting areas and insidious propaganda in Pakistan. As such their reporting was partisan.

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** May I know the names of the representatives of foreign papers in India who were not quite accurate and objective?

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**Shri Dinesh Singh:** It would be difficult for me to go into the details just now.

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** May I know whether the attention of such correspondents who were not giving objective reports was drawn to facts and did they mend their ways or not?

**Shri Dinesh Singh:** I mentioned this in the reply; towards the end of the conflict British reporting became more objective.

**Shri S. N. Chaturvedi:** May I know whether it is a fact that even when the reports of British correspondents in India had been fairly objective many a time these had been twisted and distorted by the editors of the newspapers in Britain?

**Shri Dinesh Singh:** That is their own internal working and it is difficult for me to comment upon.

**Shri Hem Barua:** Is it not a fact that whatever the truth, the foreign correspondents in this country sent their despatches to suit the anti-India policies of the papers they represent in this country and, if so, why is it that our government had not tried to categorise the foreign correspondents in this country according to their sympathy or antipathy to truth?

**Shri Dinesh Singh:** The hon. Member himself mentioned that this was to suit the policy of the paper. What is the good of talking to the correspondents if that is the policy of the paper?

**Mr. Speaker:** He wants to suggest that they might have their own categories with them and when they have to deal with them; they should keep that in view.

**Shri Hem Barua:** What is the reply to my question?

**Mr. Speaker:** That is a suggestion and they would keep it in mind certainly when it comes from Mr. Hem Barua.