

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, April 19, 1960/30th Chaitra,
1882 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair].

MEMBERS SWORN

1. Shri Liladhar Asthana (Unnao).
2. Shri Vijaya Anand Maharaj
Kumar of Vizianagram (Visakhapat-
nam).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Stores in C.O.D., Chheoki

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*1567. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:

Will the Minister of Defence be
pleased to refer to the reply given to
Starred Question No. 708 on the 9th
December, 1959 and state:

(a) whether Government have com-
pleted the investigation regarding the
recovery of stores from underground
in Central Ordnance Depots, Chheoki;
and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the
Minister of Defence (Shri Fatesinhrao
Gaekwad):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The
Court of Inquiry has held that the
surpluses, including the unaccounted
for stores, dug up from the Depot
premises as also the deficiencies were
due to lapses in carrying out stock-
taking and that there was no mala-
fide intention on the part of responsi-
ble individuals in authority. It may
also be stated that the Government

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has this matter under further consi-
deration.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I
know what is the value of the sur-
plus store which has been recovered?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri
Krishna Menon):** According to the
Court of Inquiry, the total value of
stores found to be surplus in the depot
by stock-taking and by unaccounted
stores having come up as a result of
items being dug up from the depot
premises or discovered lying in var-
ious sheds amount to Rs. 7,12,411. De-
ficiencies amounting to Rs. 1,86,000
came to light as a result of stock tak-
ing. The total value of stores held
on charge of C.O.D. Chheoki on the
31st December, 1959 was over Rs. 53
crores. The value of stores found
buried amounts to Rs. 6,000.

Shri D. C. Sharma: The hon. Minis-
ter said these things were due to the
defective stock-taking. May I know
why this stock-taking is defective and
what is being done to make the
stock-taking more foolproof?

Shri Krishna Menon: That is true,
Sir. Based on the proceedings of the
Court of Inquiry, the Gen. Officer
Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Com-
mand observed that the job of main-
taining scrutiny and check at Chheoki
has been done efficiently. But the
procedures have to be examined and
these are under examination of the
Army Headquarters. Departmental
action is being taken against some
depot commanders for any errors in
this way and the recommendations of
the Gen. Officer Commanding-in-Chief
in relation to the Services are also
under examination.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know
whether it is a fact that the person-
nel of the stock verification are work-
ing under the same commandant and

if so, what positive steps are being taken to see that the stock verifiers do not work under the same commandant, but they work under the Director, Ordnance Factories or higher authorities?

Shri Krishna Menon: I am sorry, I do not understand it.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member suggests some other person to be appointed.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Not that, Sir. My submission is that in the ordnance depots the stock verifiers are working under the same depot commandant, whereas in the Directorate of Ordnance Factories, the stock verifiers are working under the Director General of Ordnance Factories for having better supervision and check. May I know whether a similar procedure will be followed here because of these lapses?

Shri Krishna Menon: It is a suggestion for action. Problems are not exactly the same. The whole thing is under examination. When the administration is tightened, these errors come to light and when they come to light, it is said, "Why errors"? Discovery means that it is open to question.

Mr. Speaker: Evidently they want more tightening.

Shri Krishna Menon: But the point is it cannot be tightened in such a way as to strangle the thing altogether.

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: May I know whether the huge number of stocks were lying in the open which were not accounted for?

Shri Krishna Menon: I was told that the stocks were lying in open and they will continue lying in open until there is covered accommodation. Governed accommodation can be provided only in course of time according to the availability of resources. This is not a new position. It arises from the fact that there are large quantities of goods left over since the War which are useful for our purposes.

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: May I know whether all the stocks have been removed under the covered accommodation?

Mr. Speaker: The same question was asked some time ago. The hon. Minister gave the details of the amount of covered accommodation that has been provided. It is not that in one day it can be done. Attempts are being made in this direction. The hon. Members should read answers given to various questions during the session. If anything new arises I will certainly allow it.

Shri Ram Sevak Yadav: May I know whether the stocks worth lakhs of rupees were hidden underground which could not be found out for many years?

Shri Krishna Menon: I just answered that question. The value of the stock that was discovered from underground amounted to Rs. 6,000.

क्रांतिकारियों की मृतियाँ

*१५६८. श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री :
क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार दिल्ली के उन स्थानों पर जहाँ से कुछ समय पहले अंग्रेजों की प्रतिमार्थें हटायी गयी थीं, कुछ भारतीय क्रांतिकारियों की प्रमार्थें स्थापित करने का विचार कर रही है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उन क्रांतिकारियों के नाम क्या हैं ;

(ग) उनकी प्रतिमार्थें किन किन स्थानों पर लगायी जायेंगी ;

(घ) क्या सरकार ने इस विषय पर विचार किया है कि अंग्रेजों की शेष प्रतिमार्थें कब हटायी जायेंगी ; और

(ङ) दिल्ली में विदेशियों की और कितनी प्रतिमार्थें हटायी जानी शेष हैं ?