

pointed out that he belongs to a particular group. Immediately, the songs were returned to him. But, about a week later, the same thing was broadcast in the Madras station. That was why I wanted to know whether a particular *modus operandi* is adopted in this particular station.

Mr. Speaker If really on account of some kind of partiality or prejudice, this kind of thing happens, I would not hesitate to allow a question of that kind, or if there is a kind of nepotism or discrimination, I would not hesitate to allow the question; but even if the hon. Minister who is in charge of this portfolio were present here, he might not have been able to answer the question without notice. He is not expected to know everything about everything.

Shri Tangamani: I have specifically mentioned Tiruchirappalli station, so that the hon. Minister may know how these folk songs have been broadcast.

Mr. Speaker: That does not arise out of the main question. The general question with regard to Tiruchirappalli station has been answered.

Sub-Division of Plots of Land in Delhi

*523. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 514 on the 16th August, 1961 and state:

(a) whether the seven-member Committee appointed to study the proposal for sub-dividing larger plots of land in developed residential areas in Delhi, has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta. May I know whether these areas are being held by co-operative societies or they are in the possession of Government?

Shri P. S. Naskar: The terms of reference of this committee are to make a survey of the existing built-up areas of Delhi and look into the question of the division of those plots not exceeding 1200 square yards.

Communist Infiltration into Sikkim

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*524 { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri P. G. Deb:
Shri Assar:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the press reports that communist infiltration was taking place from India into Sikkim; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government of India?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) and (b). We have seen press reports stating that the Maharajkumar of Sikkim had referred to the visit to Sikkim of certain Nepalese communists.

We have no information about the visit to Sikkim of communists from India. Indians and Nepalese move freely in and out of Sikkim and consequently no records of their movement are kept.

The situation in Sikkim is said to be normal.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether those persons who visited Sikkim from Nepal did any kind of propaganda there, and if so, what kind of propaganda?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: We have no information whether they have done any propaganda or not.

Ceylon Immigration Act

*526. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a considerable number of persons are detained in Talaimannar, Ceylon under Ceylon Immigration Act;

(b) if so, what steps are taken for lessening the inconvenience to these persons;

(c) whether it is a fact that in the Ceylon Parliament the Ceylon Prime Minister stated on the 15th November, 1961 that there are "over a lakh of illicit immigrants and annual influx from India is 3,000";

(d) whether the Government of India have been informed of the Immigrant and Emigrant (Amendment) Bill now pending before Ceylon Parliament; and

(e) if so, reaction of Government to this measure?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) According to the latest information available the number of persons detained at the Talaimannar Camp in Ceylon is 150.

(b) Our High Commissioner in Colombo keeps in constant touch with the Ceylon authorities and all efforts are made to complete as expeditiously as possible the necessary enquiries about the nationality, date of arrival etc. of these persons who are detained as suspected illicit immigrants. As soon as the authorities are satisfied about the nationality etc. of these persons, they are released or repatriated to India. The number of such persons detained at the Talaimannar Camp at the end of August 1961 was 427 and, as already stated in answer to part (a) has now come down to 150 only.

(c) Government have seen press reports to this effect.

(d) Yes.

(e) We have no comments.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether Government have checked up from the Indian High Commission there that the figure of 1,00,000 is exorbitant and it will not in any case exceed 10,000?

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. Member mean that it ought not to exceed 10,000?

Shri Tangamani: There was a statement by the Prime Minister of Ceylon. I have referred to that specifically in part (c) of my question.

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. Member suggest that it ought not to exceed 10,000?

Shri Tangamani: The impression that is sought to be created is that there is a large number of illicit immigrants, where actually, the number of illicit immigrants cannot by any stretch of imagination exceed 10,000.

Mr. Speaker: What the hon. Member says is that as a matter of fact, the number cannot be more than 10,000.

According to the hon. Member, they are trying to create the impression that a large number of immigrants are there.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Those are the only illicit immigrants who are apprehended. There may be lots of other people who may not be apprehended, about whom nobody knows anything.

Shri Tangamani: There have been representations sent to the Government of India also to the effect that the figure that has been supplied by the Prime Minister of Ceylon in the House of Representatives was an inflated figure. I would like to know whether Government have received any information and they have got any comments to make.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: No, Sir. We have not received anything.

Shri Tangamani: If the Bill that is now introduced there is passed, it will cause really more harassment to those *bona fide* citizens, even to persons with Indian passports. That being so, what is the protest or representation made to that Government through the High Commission?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: We have taken up the matter in detail with the Ceylon Government. As regards the particular clause which is feared to cause additional harassment, we have

received an assurance that the Government have no intention of using this clause in order to harass the immigrants. As far as illicit immigrants are concerned, the Government of India themselves are aware of it and are doing everything possible to prevent illicit immigration into Ceylon.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether representations have been received by Government from Indian residents in Ceylon to the effect that the Indian High Commission is not helpful in these and allied matters like the other High Commissions in different parts of the world?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I take strong exception to this statement. No representation has been made. On the other hand, our High Commission in Ceylon takes the keenest interest as far as the problems of Indians are concerned, about their citizenship, about Stateless persons and about illicit immigrants.

Shri Tangamani: On a point of personal explanation. I myself visited the High Commission's office there three weeks ago and have written a detailed letter to the Prime Minister with copies of the various representations made. That is why without referring to this, I wanted to know whether representations have been received by organisations in Ceylon to the effect that the High Commission in Colombo is the least helpful to these residents there, particularly those coming from the south.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: No, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Evidently the hon. Minister is not aware of the letter written by the hon. Member or of his having visited Ceylon.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I would like to know who are the bodies that have made these representations.

Shri Tangamani: One is from myself. I have myself made a representation. I have also sent copies of various representations which I have received.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I want to assure the House that whenever any such representations are received by the High Commission, they are examined by him; when any representations are received by the Government of India, they are referred to the High Commission. We receive his explanation. We also find out from him whether such a thing has really happened.

Mr. Speaker: Evidently the hon. Minister is not aware of the letter written by the hon. Member.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Not a particular letter.

Mr. Speaker: Therefore, she must look into it.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Jaldhaka River in Bhutan

*493. { Shri D. C. Sharma;
Shri Balraj Madhok;
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement providing for the utilization of the waters of the Jaldhaka river which flows through Bhutan into West Bengal has been signed between Governments of India and Bhutan; and

(b) if so, the details and terms of the agreement?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri J. N. Hazarika): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Agreement, a dam is proposed to be constructed across the Jaldhaka river for generating and supplying electricity to the adjoining areas of Bhutan and West Bengal. The firm power potential is expected to be 18,000 KWs, and the project is estimated to cost Rs. 4.5 crores, which will be met by the Government of West Bengal. The West Bengal Elec-