

[Mr. Speaker]

Provided that the Chairman of the Council of States or Speaker of the House of the People, or person acting as such, as the case may be, may permit any Member who cannot adequately express himself in Hindi or in English to address the House in his mother tongue."

So, it is a question of the Speaker's discretion, and if permission is granted then only the hon. Member can speak in any other language. That is the position. Taking the oath in any particular language is not necessarily related to it. I myself took the oath in Hindi—that does not mean I do not understand English. So, let us not go into these questions. If there is any difficulty and if an hon. Member is unable to express himself and he asks for permission, I will consider whether it is a fit case for grant of permission.

We will now proceed with the questions. Before doing so there is one more point to which I may just invite the attention of the hon. Members. I am thinking of allotting particular blocks to particular sets of Members, but that will necessarily require some time. I must have with me, lists of persons who wish to be grouped together for purposes of sitting. Till then Members cannot be allotted particular seats for the simple reason that the total number of seats actually provided is less than the total number of Members. Therefore, till the blocks are allotted I would request each hon. Member to stick to the seat which he is occupying today.

This implies the necessary corollary that other hon. Members should not try to sit on that seat or occupy it at any time, much less usurp it. The simple reason is this. As I called Dr. R. S. Singh just now, it came to my mind that it is not possible to mark out a particular Member among the large number of 500 unless his seat is constant, and from my experience, I may say that the association of the Chair is usually with the place where a Member is sitting. If I have called Dr. R. S. Singh by seeing him stand from the place he is occupying now, then next day or next time, if he is sitting somewhere here or there, I shall presume that he is absent and shall go ahead. It is therefore in the interest of Members themselves to continue in their present seats, till blocks are allotted.

PERMIT SYSTEM

*1. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Pakistan Government propose to introduce per-

mit system for travel between East Pakistan and West Bengal?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): The hon. Member's attention is invited to the Press Note issued on the 4th May, 1952, in regard to the introduction of a passport system between Pakistan and India.

Mr. Speaker: I would like to mention another convention also. The convention that I have been following is that the hon. Member who has tabled a question is presumed to know something more about it, that he has thought about that matter, and therefore, he should be given an opportunity to put his supplementaries first, and thereafter I shall see if there is time and then allow other Members to put questions.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In view of the fact that the Prime Ministers' Agreement of 1950 stipulated that travel between East Pakistan and India would be free, may I know whether the present attempts of Pakistan to introduce this passport system do not amount to a violation of that Agreement?

Dr. Keskar: The Government of India did draw the attention of the Pakistan Government to the Indo-Pakistan Agreement and also to the fact that in our view this was not in consonance with that Agreement, but as the hon. Member will see from the Press Note, the Pakistan Government differed from us and in their opinion this is not a violation of the Indo-Pakistan Agreement.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the number of migrants from East Pakistan who are still in India?

Dr. Keskar: I would require notice for that.

Jonab Amjad Ali: Is the Government prepared to take this House into confidence and give us the result of the talks that are going on between our representatives and those of Pakistan at Karachi?

Dr. Keskar: No, Sir. It is not possible for Government to give an idea of the confidential talks that may be going on or have already taken place.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): May I add to that answer, Sir? As a matter of fact, the talks are still going on. No conclusion has been arrived at at all. They go on from day to day and there is nothing more to be said about it. The talks, after disposing of the basic question of having passports or not, relate to the facilities etc. to be given, and it is the Government of India's desire that even

after the introduction of the passport system or any other kind of regulation of travel, this should be very liberally interpreted so far as Eastern Pakistan, West Bengal, Assam and Tripura are concerned.

Shri A. C. Guha: Are we to understand that the Pakistan Government initiated this proposal without consulting the Government of India and in spite of the Government of India's reluctance to accept any such proposal?

Dr. Keskar: Again, I would draw the attention of my hon. friend to the Press Note in which we have clarified the whole position. The Pakistan Government took the initiative in informing us that they proposed to introduce the passport system, considering the present permit system to be inadequate and unsatisfactory.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Has the attention of Government been drawn to the Press reports in the last few days that a large number of people have already started moving out from East Bengal to Assam and West Bengal as a result of the announcement of the passport system proposed to be introduced by Pakistan?

Dr. Keskar: Government have seen Press reports on the reported move of large numbers of people from East Pakistan to Assam but they cannot say whether this is due to the coming in of the passport system. Presumably, it is so.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: May I add that apart from vague Press reports the actual figures are otherwise.

Mr. Speaker: We will proceed to the next Question.

BOTTLING OF PENICILLIN

*2. **Shri Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Works, Production and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Penicillin Bottling Plant at Bombay has been working to its full capacity since it started work;

(b) whether any public requirements were also met after satisfying Government demands; and

(c) when the Poona Penicillin factory is likely to be constructed?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Buragohain)
(a) Yes.

(b) No sales have been made to the public direct but supplies have been made to municipalities and other public institutions.

(c) The construction of the Factory is expected to be completed by about March 1953.

Shri Hukam Singh: Do the Departments of Government get all their requirements from this bottling factory, or do they also import from foreign countries?

Shri Buragohain: The position is that we import penicillin in bulk and it is bottled in this factory and distributed to the various Departments under the Central and State Governments.

Shri Hukam Singh: My question is this. Do all Government requirements get met by this bottling factory, or are the Government requirements supplemented by imports from foreign countries also?

Shri Buragohain: So far, after meeting Government requirements and the needs of other institutions of a public nature, there is still left some quantity of penicillin and Government are now considering the appointment of agents for the distribution of this surplus to the public.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: Will Government make available the latest report on the working of these factories?

Shri Buragohain: I am not aware of the receipt of any formal report on this factory, but if and when that is received the question will be considered.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether there is only bottling of penicillin taking place in this factory, or whether there is any real manufacture of penicillin also?

Shri Buragohain: I have already explained the position. We are importing penicillin in bulk and we are bottling it in this factory. The idea is to cut down the expenditure and the higher cost involved in the imported material.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know what is the total annual import of penicillin at present, and how the Government proposes to reduce it in coming years?

Shri Buragohain: I should like to have notice.

Shri Hukam Singh: Do Government of India perform their part of the agreement which was entered into with the W.H.O. or the U.N. Children's Emergency Fund for providing land for the construction of factories and other buildings?