

**Arrest of Indian Official in Congo**

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 Shri Vajpayee:  
 Srimati Ila Palchoudhari:  
 Shri D. C. Sharma:  
 Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:  
 Sari Kalika Singh:  
 Shri Sugaadhi:  
 Shri Wodeyar:  
 Shri Agadi:  
 Shri Muhammed Elias:  
 Shri P. G. Deb:  
 Shri Arjun Singh  
 Bhadauria:  
 Shri Sadhan Gupta:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian Embassy official has recently been arrested and detained by the Congolese authorities in Leopoldville (Congo);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons of arrest and detention of the official; and

(c) the steps taken to secure his release?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):** (a) to (c). Yes Sir. Shri Venkataraman, an official of the Indian Embassy at Leopoldville, was arrested by the Congolese police at 9.45 a.m. on 13th June, 1961, after he had been called out of his hotel room. Immediately on receipt of this information, the Second Secretary of the Embassy personally went to the local police chief and protested energetically and effectively against Shri Venkataraman's arrest and had him released at 11.15 a.m. the same day. The Charge d'Affairs, Indian Embassy, sent a protest note to the Congolese Foreign Office. The Interior Minister of Congo telephoned the Charge d'Affairs, and apologised for the incident.

The arrest of Shri Venkataraman was due to certain moves that the Leopoldville authorities had staged in connection with the proposed meeting of the Congolese Parliament.

**Coal Washing Plant**

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 Shri Narayanankutty Menon:  
 Shri Indrajit Gupta:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have approved proposal from a British firm for the manufacture of Coal Washing and Preparation Plant in India;

(b) whether it is a fact that the firm will hold sixty per cent. shares and the remaining capital will be thrown open for public subscription in India; and

(c) if so, what are the other terms on which the British firm has been allowed to set up its plant?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) to (c). No, Sir. A licence under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 was granted to an Indian Engineering Company for the manufacture of Coal Washing and Preparation Plants, in their existing unit at Titagarh (West Bengal). This company informed Government that they proposed to enter into a technical collaboration agreement with a British firm for the manufacture of these plants. The terms of the collaboration are reported to be still under negotiation between the parties concerned.

**Boundary Pillars between India and Burma**

\*35. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the boundary pillars between Manipur (India) and Chin special Division (Burma) were removed in June this year;

(b) if so, who removed the pillars; and

(c) what action has been taken by the Government in the matter?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):** (a) to (c). We are trying to obtain the latest information.

**Reorganisation of External Affairs Ministry**

\*36. { **Shri Radha Raman;**  
**Shri Ram Krishan Gupta;**  
**Shri Shree Narayan Das;**  
**Shri H m Barua;**

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

(a) whether Government have considered the report of the Reorganisation Committee set up to make recommendation for reorganisation of External Affairs Ministry; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):** (a) and (b). The Reorganisation Committee has not yet submitted its complete report. Such parts as have been submitted are under the active consideration of Government.

**Transmitting Station with Studio at Varanasi**

\*37. { **Shri Kalika Singh;**  
**Shri Bibhuti Mishra;**

Will the **Minister of Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the relay transmitting station at Varanasi is under construction;

(b) by what time the station will begin to function;

(c) the scheme, if any, for further expansion of the transmitting station; and

(d) the proposal, if any, under consideration of Government to establish a High Power Transmitting Station with studio at Varanasi?

**The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar):** (a) Yes, Sir. A 10 KW. medium wave relay transmitter is being installed at Varanasi.

(b) The station is expected to start functioning in 1962 if the building construction is completed according to schedule.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. This is meant to be a relay centre for Lucknow station.

**Pump Houses in New Delhi**

\*38. **Shri Muhammed Elias:** Will the **Minister of Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to reduce the height of the pump houses built in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the present height of the pump houses and what will be the height after reduction;

(c) the expenditure involved and the purpose of reducing the height; and

(d) the name of the authority under whose instructions the pump houses were built so high?

**The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) Yes, Sir; but only in respect of 20 pump houses located along important roads.

(b) The present height is 9'-6" above the ground level which will be reduced to 3'-6" for 20 pump houses only.

(c) The expenditure is estimated to be Rs. 5,000. The object is to minimise the conspicuity of the pump houses located along important roads.

(d) The pump houses were built according to the drawings prepared by the C.P.W.D.

**Chief Marketing Officer of the Coffee Board**

\*39. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the **Minister of Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state: