

[Dr. K. L. Shrimali]

the Asian Games and in the Olympics. As I said, we do not interfere in this work of the Federation.

Shri Daji: My question has not been answered, Sir. My question was whether we have made it clear to the Indonesian Government that we dissociate with the views of Shri Sondhi.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: This question has been answered. Our Ambassador in Indonesia has made it very clear, and the Government of India have also made it clear, and my statement also makes it very clear.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): May I take it from the statement of the hon. Minister that if any Indian goes abroad in connection with sports or any other thing, he has the right to say whatever he likes and he will not be pulled up for what he says?

Mr. Speaker: That is hypothetical.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The hon. Member certainly should know that this country enjoys freedom, and hon. Members on the opposite side should certainly know that we cannot just do anything about the statements which they make. Similarly, Shri G. D. Sondhi has made a statement. He has made it in his personal capacity.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, I raise a point of order. To my question, the hon. Minister says that hon. Members also make some statements. He has not cared to answer my question. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: It was made clear in his statement. Shri Hem Barua.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): In view of the fact that this incident has picked up a lot of misunderstanding, may I know whether the Government have the official version of Shri Sondhi's statement with them?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I have said in my statement that we have not received any official statement.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री (बिजनौर) :
इस दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण विवाद से जो एक अनचाही स्थिति उत्पन्न हो गई है, उस सम्बन्ध में इंडोनेशिया के विदेश मंत्री का वक्तव्य क्या है और क्या श्री सोंधी ने अपना वक्तव्य वापिस ले लिया है ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : इसके बारे में मुझे कोई इत्तिला नहीं है । लेकिन जहां तक मुझे मालूम है श्री सोंधी ने अपना वक्तव्य वापिस नहीं लिया है ।

श्री बड़े (खरगोन) : क्या गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से श्री सोंधी को कुछ लिखा गया है कि इस प्रकार का स्टेटमेंट उसने क्यों दिया और क्या उससे उस स्टेटमेंट को मांगा गया है जो उसने दिया है ?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: How can the Government do anything like that? The gentleman goes there as a representative of the Olympics, and makes a statement in his individual capacity. How can the Government curb the freedom of an individual?

Mr. Speaker: We shall proceed to the next item.

Shri P. C. Borooah (Sibsagar)
rose—

Mr. Speaker: I looked at that side, but he did not stand.

Shri P. C. Borooah: I was waiting for the other question to end.

Mr. Speaker: Sorry.

STATEMENT RE: CHINESE
MILITARY POSTS IN LADAKH

Mr. Speaker: About the subject regarding the establishment of 30 new posts in Ladakh, I made enquiries, and I learnt that the Prime Minister was

going to make a statement. I will allow Shri Hem Barua question.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): When is the Prime Minister making the statement?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): Unfortunately, the Prime Minister is not here now. I would make a statement.

Mr. Speaker: Does she want to make the statement now?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I want to make the statement.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): Is it in answer to a Short Notice Question or a Calling Attention Notice?

Mr. Speaker: A Calling Attention Notice was received. But before that could be ascertained, the hon. Prime Minister has sent me an intimation that he was going to make a statement voluntarily. I have allowed that. But because I had also received a Calling Attention Notice I will allow Shri Hem Barua to put a question.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: White Paper No. VI published by Government gave some details of Chinese military posts established upto 26th July against which we had lodged protests.

Since the publication of White Paper No. VI, we protested on 22nd and 24th August against the establishment of some more posts. The total number of these posts established by the Chinese since May 1962 comes to 30.

On 28th August, we protested against the establishment of four more posts. Our information is that one of these Chinese posts has since been withdrawn. But there is some evidence of the establishment of two more such posts in the neighbourhood.

I have had occasion to mention earlier in the House that a large number of these posts, particularly those established in recent months, are extensions of old posts a few miles further and generally within the defensive perimeter of the earlier posts. This is the case particularly in the region of Daulat Beg Oldhi and the Chip Chap river valley where the Chinese posts are separated only by short distance from each other.

In the Galwan river valley there are a number of Chinese posts that are close together and are interconnected. These, as I have said before, hamper our line of supply to our post by the land route. Another attempt to interfere with our supply line was made by the Chinese by the establishment of a Chinese post on the 23rd August in the Pangong lake area. We have protested against this and taken necessary measures to prevent interference with our line of supply in the Pangong lake area.

In regard to the incident on August 14th, the factual position is that there was an exchange of fire between our post in the Pangong lake region and the Chinese detachment. No casualty was suffered by our post. We protested to the Chinese against this incident on the 15th August.

Shri Hem Barua: The Chinese have by now established 30 new posts and the White Paper No. VI only mentions details of 20 posts. That means that they have built at least 10 more posts. On the other hand, because of the posts that we have established, the Prime Minister was pleased to say that we have recovered about 2,000 square miles from the Chinese. The Chinese advance is most patent by the establishment of these new posts. May I know whether the establishment of these new posts demonstrates any further advance into our territory by the Chinese?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): The number of these posts is not synonymous with the

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territorial advance. It is a matter of tactical disposition, whether our Commanders think that it is better to split up one post into two or the Chinese Commanders do the same. The answer to the question is, the establishment of these posts by itself does not mean advance into our territory.

Shri Hem Barua: My question has not been replied to. Our argument is that because we have been able to establish a few more posts, we have reoccupied certain territory.

Mr. Speaker: Why should he place so much emphasis on that part?

Shri Hem Barua: My point is, the establishment of new posts to the extent of 30 means that the Chinese have advanced into our territory. It may be a tactical move.

Mr. Speaker: What I understood was, the Defence Minister has said that there has not been any further advance by the Chinese in that area. It is for the Commanders to see whether it is expedient to split up one post further into two or three posts.

Shri Hem Barua: That is not clear.

Mr. Speaker: Then I might not have understood him all right. Let me ask.

Shri Krishna Menon: What I said was, the increase in the number of posts by the Chinese, as mentioned by our Prime Minister, taking into account the difference in the dates of the two announcements, does not by itself mean any further advance into our territory. The increase in the number of posts is the distribution of personnel into one, two, three or four posts, according as the Command desires. We may not consider it necessary or possible, whatever may be the reason, to increase the number of posts, when one post would do the job. That is a tactical decision.

Mr. Speaker: The increase in the number of posts might not by itself

mean further advance by the Chinese. But the question that the hon. Member insists on is whether in fact there has been further advance, according to the information available with the Government.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: It is already stated in the statement. I have said there:

"I have had occasion to mention earlier in the House that a large number of these posts, particularly those established in recent months, are extensions of old posts a few miles further and generally within the defensive perimeter of the earlier posts."

This has already been stated (*Interruptions*).

An Hon. Member: Have they made any advance?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. We are trying to understand each other. Hon. Members should not be impatient.

Shri Bade (Khangone): How many miles further have they advanced?

Mr. Speaker: Should all of them stand up simultaneously? Let them put their questions one by one.

Shri Bade: It is a serious question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I should not be forced to have a departure here, though the subject is very important. Hon. Members can seek a further discussion by another method. But I am trying to make it clear so that the anxiety of the hon. Members might be removed. They should allow me to have that cleared rather than force me to allow a further discussion by allowing other hon. Members to put questions. I am not allowing any question to be put by other hon. Members whose names do not appear on the Calling Attention Notice.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I am not putting another question. May I request you to clarify another aspect

of the matter closely connected with this one? In disallowing a similar question by me, Sir, you were pleased to state that the Prime Minister would make a statement regarding the correspondence between the Government of India and the Government of China recently. Is that statement coming before the end of this Session to bring the battle of notes up to date?

Mr. Speaker: I cannot say that. If he tells me what that promise I made is, certainly I will get it checked up.

Now, coming to the other matter, again and again the same question is being put, whether the Government can give any further information on this fact as to whether the Chinese have made any further advance into our territory and, if so, by how many miles.

Shri Krishna Menon: I said, Sir, that increase in the number of these posts does not mean any advance (*Interruptions*).

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): That means there has been advance; it is clear.

Shri Hem Barua: May I ask, Sir. . .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Would the hon. Members kindly resume their seats? The difficulty with the hon. Members is that they are feeling perturbed. They have these apprehensions that probably there have been some further advances in our territories by the Chinese. The question, though it was confined to the posts, is whether there has been any further advance. The hon. Defence Minister has said two or three times—probably I have not been able to make myself clear and, therefore, that ambiguity still exists—that the setting up or the increase in the number of these posts by themselves does not give any indication whether there has been any further advance or not. This is admitted, and everybody is satisfied so far as the increase

in the number is concerned. Independently of that, the question is,—whether there has been an increase or not—whether the Chinese have advanced further into our territory. This is what the hon. Members want to know. If the Government has got that information that might be given.

Shri Krishna Menon: If you will permit me to say so, Sir, it is not possible to hold territories without posts. If they will advance they will put up posts. That is why I said that these posts do not represent advances. There are no posts put up by the Chinese which represent advances into our territory.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Why is the Minister shilly-shallying and beating about the bush? Why can't he say 'yes' or 'no'?

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): Let us say: "No advance".

Shri Hem Barua: Sir, I rise to a point of order. I have been listening to the two statements by the two different Ministers. Shrimati Lakshmi Menon has admitted that there has been an extension of posts a few miles further. The Defence Minister has also said that there has been a splitting up of posts. Supposing I split your chair, Sir. . . .

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: God forbid.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. There ought not to be any surprise if the chair is split on account of what has been happening!

Shri Hem Barua: Suppose, Sir, your chair is split into two parts and one part remains here; the other part either goes to the front or goes back.

Mr. Speaker: They can remain parallel also and I might fall down! (*Interruptions*) The two portions may be behind each other.

Shri Krishna Menon: You cannot hold a territory without army or

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posts. The question is directly in relation to the 30 posts, about the discrepancy between the statement made by the Minister of Defence and the statement made by the External Affairs Minister. That, I understand is the purpose of this question. Therefore, naturally, when she speaks about the increase of posts, a doubt arises whether they advanced. I said there was no advance.

Mr. Speaker: Now papers to be laid on the Table.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I would like to ask whether this answer just now given was due to the intervention of the Minister without Portfolio.

Shri Krishna Menon: I would like to ask the hon. Member to withdraw the word "shilly shallying".

Mr. Speaker: What is the word objected to?

An Hon. Member: "shilly shallying".

Mr. Speaker: There is one appeal which I have to make to hon. Members. These are very delicate matters and we have to help the Government. Government has to govern and Parliament has to legislate. Sometimes it becomes difficult for the hon. Members on the Treasury Benches to give such information as might be demanded by the hon. Members. They might appreciate that there may be some difficulties on certain occasions and in such matters such pressure at that moment might, perhaps, put the Government in an embarrassing position, or affect the interests of the country. All of us, whether on this side or that side, are interested in safeguarding the interests of the country. So, that should also be borne in mind and sometimes if there is some hesitation, that should not always be taken to mean that there was an attempt at shilly shallying or deliberately withholding information. Some allowances have to be

made. Of course, I am not referring to any particular occasion, either this occasion or any other particular occasion. I am simply bringing it to the notice of hon. Members so that they might take this also into consideration when they press questions.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Sir, I want a clarification on the ruling which you have just now given.

Mr. Speaker: There is no ruling.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I am referring to your observation. The Minister has, throughout his answers, never used the word "public interest".

Mr. Speaker: I would request the hon. Member to resume his seat.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: So, there is no question of national interest or public interest at all.

Shri Hem Barua: Sir, May I seek your protection?

Mr. Speaker: I rather seek his protection. I have closed that chapter. So, I would request him also to just resume his seat.

12.27 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

MANIPUR CHILDREN RULES, 1962

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. 3/7/62-Act/L published in Manipur Gazette dated the 22nd June, 1962 containing the Manipur Children Rules, 1962, under subsection (3) of section 59 of the Children Act, 1960. (Placed in Library See No. LT-387/62].

GENEVA CONVENTIONS (ASSIGNMENT OF LEGAL PRACTITIONERS) RULES, 1962

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Geneva Conventions