

(b) if so, whether any enquiry into the incident has been conducted so far and the findings thereof?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Nanda): (a) Yes.

(b) The Commandant of the Border Security Force conducted an enquiry into the incident and came to the conclusion that it was a case of accidental fire.

**Civil and Rural Engineering
Diploma**

1541. { **Shri Jedhe:**
Shri D. S. Patil:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the diploma in Civil and Rural Engineering awarded by the National Council for Rural Higher Education has been recognised since 1963 for the purposes of employment on permanent basis in Central Services including the M.E.S. and the Railways;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the names of the Central Government Departments where the above diploma is recognised for employment and the steps taken to get employment to the holders of this diploma?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) to (c). The Diploma in Civil and Rural Engineering awarded by the National Council for Rural Higher Education has been provisionally recognised for purposes of employment to subordinate posts and services until further orders. The recognition covers all the Ministries and the Departments of the Central Government.

The question of permanent recognition of the Diploma is under the consideration of the Board of Assessment for Technical and Professional Qualifications.

Free Education in Delhi

1542. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to make education free upto Class X in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

12 hrs.

**RE. ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS AND
CALLING ATTENTION NOTICES**

Mr. Speaker: I have received notices of two adjournment motions by Shri Hem Barua, Shri S. M. Banerjee and Shri Homi Daji and five Calling Attention Notices by Shri Yashpal Singh, Shri Hem Barua, Shri S. M. Banerjee, Shrimati Renu Chakravartty, Shri Homi Daji, Shrimati Renuka Ray and Shri Harish Chandra Mathur, about the espionage activities of Pakistan Assistant High Commissioner at Shillong. I have thought over it. My first impression was that it is not a new thing. But the allegation is that the provocation has been given by the statement of the Home Minister yesterday. May I know whether the hon. Minister can make any statement about it?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The matter is under consideration by the External Affairs Ministry.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): The Home Minister has admitted that the Assistant High Commissioner there was engaged in espionage activities. We want to know whether any action has been taken on that.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am saying that this matter is under the consideration of the Ministry of External Affairs.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): For the benefit of the hon. Prime Minister, Sir, I would like to point out one thing. When there was a question here about the closing down by Pakistan of the Indian office in Rajshahi, in reply to a query made by me whether the Prime Minister proposed to close down the Pakistan Assistant High Commissioner's office at Shillong or not, the hon. Prime Minister was pleased to say: "We are watching their activities and appropriate steps would be taken when necessary." Now, this office is engaged in espionage activities. I am only just trying to remind the Prime Minister so that he might give a fuller reply. I have been trying to draw the attention of the Prime Minister and you also, Sir, through calling attention notices. Unfortunately, they have been disallowed. Now, the Home Minister has come out with a statement in the Congress Parliamentary Party meeting, despite the fact that we have given our notices here, and I congratulate him for coming out with that statement. Now, if you want me. . . .

Mr. Speaker: I have not given him time to congratulate the Minister.

Shri Hem Barua: Then I do not congratulate him. But if you shut us down like that . . . (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: Again, another controversy is started.

Shri Hem Barua: . . . we are debarred from discharging our duties, and this is one of our important duties.

Mr. Speaker: Has he anything to say on this particular subject?

Shri Hem Barua: Therefore, I want to know from the Prime Minister point blank whether he has forgotten the assurance that he has given to this House long back and whether the

present activities of this office, as we know it, are not sufficient for him to take a decision to ask for its closure.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): There are two points on which we have tabled this adjournment motion. One is the espionage in Shillong by Pakistan High Commission, about which a statement was made by Shri G. L. Nanda, our Home Minister, in a meeting of the Congress Parliamentary Party.

Mr. Speaker: That has been referred to already.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Secondly, the Prime Minister has said that the External Affairs Ministry is considering it; that is to say, the closure of the Assistant Pakistan High Commissioner's office. I would like to know the decisions that have been taken regarding both, first, to check the espionage work done by the Assistant High Commissioner of Pakistan with the help of certain Pakistani spies who have infiltrated to Assam and, secondly, regarding the closure of this particular office at least to put some check on such espionage in our country.

Mr. Speaker: The Prime Minister has said that the matter is under consideration. Now the hon. Member asks whether he is going to ask for the closure of that office.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): Since my party has been referred to, I would like to make one point clear. In the party meeting, the Home Minister never made a statement that he was sure or confident that this was being done. What he said was that he had received such reports. That is all what he has said.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, may I read for your information what has appeared in the newspaper?

Mr. Speaker: No. Shri Tyagi has given information as to what has happened.

Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi): Four newspapers have given four different versions.

Mr. Speaker: So, it is only a report in the press. Now, would the Prime Minister like to say anything on this?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No. As I said, this matter is being fully considered by the External Affairs Ministry. I cannot go into any further details.

Shri Hem Barua: How long would you take to finalise your decision?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What about the espionage?

Mr. Speaker: That is not for discussion now.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): But the emergency is on.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): Sir, on a point of order. Mr. Speaker, it is with the fullest sense of responsibility that I seek your indulgence today and it is for my future guidance. Now, the subject you allowed to be mentioned in the House is espionage by Pakistani agents in India. I am a little baffled to know this, because I do not know whether the danger constituted to India's security by Pakistani agents operating in Rourkela or Jamshedpur is in any way different from that constituting to our security by Pakistani agents operating in Shillong. I am posing this question because we also tried to raise the matter on the basis of a statement by a very responsible man, no less than the ex-Chief Minister of Orissa, who said that Pakistani agents are operating in India, particularly in Jamshedpur and Rourkela according to his first hand finding, and, Sir, you have disallowed it. I am not challenging that. I want to know the criterion so that I do not take the time of the House unnecessarily or challenge your authority. So, I may be enlightened on the criterion followed in such cases.

Mr. Speaker: Shrimati Renu Chakravarty challenged that yesterday. Now Shri Nath Pai is challenging that.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: He has not challenged it, Sir. That is not correct.

Shri Nath Pai: Sir, I am only seeking a clarification. Challenging is quite different from clarification.

Mr. Speaker: I have said it so many times and there is nothing more to add to what I have repeated so often. It is for me at that time to exercise my discretion as to what is more important and what is to be mentioned here. If some hon. Member has a grievance, certainly—I have requested every hon. Member—he can come and talk with me. Here I cannot take it up and argue with any hon. Member. Shrimati Renu Chakravarty.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Barrackpore): May I know whether attention of the Government has been drawn. . . .

Mr. Speaker: No. I had asked her to call attention. . . .

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: I also was a signatory to that.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What is your ruling about the adjournment motion?

Mr. Speaker: No adjournment motion. That is being considered and after that consideration, they can give further notice of that.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Has it been held over?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Has it been held over?

Mr. Speaker: No.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What about the calling-attention notice?

Mr. Speaker: They are considering it.

Sbri Hem Barua: May I submit for your enlightenment . . . (*Interruption*). This adjournment motion was addressed to the hon. Prime Minister. We have addressed some calling-attention notices to the hon. Home Minister so that he might make a statement.

Mr. Speaker: They do not arise in view of this.

12.11 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

HINDU TRIBAL REFUGEES FROM EAST PAKISTAN

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Barackpore): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

The hardships being suffered by Hindu tribal refugees migrating from East Pakistan, especially due to the outbreak of small-pox and other diseases caused by lack of arrangements of regular rations, treatment, transport etc.

The Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): According to information obtained from the Government of Assam this morning, the position is that 3 persons in one of the camps in the Garo Hills were found to be suffering from small-pox. They had come from Pakistan and had brought the infection from there. Immediate action was taken to isolate them and arrange proper medical attention for them.

2. Mass inoculation against cholera and vaccination against small pox had already been completed in all the camps in the Garo Hills. Medical arrangements have been made in all camps and the refugees are supplied with rations, blankets etc. A sufficient number of doctors and public

health staff are on duty and cases requiring hospitalisation are shifted to the District Hospital at Tura.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: May I know whether it is in the knowledge of Government that in the interiormost parts bordering Mymensingh and Baghmara there are no arrangements for rations for these thousands of people who have come there, that people—women, children and old people—have to walk 32 to 35 miles to Dalu on hilly road in the burning heat in order to get their rations and that there is actually no arrangement for treatment or transport from these interior places for them to come?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: The information of the hon. Member, as far as I know from my personal visit to these camps, is entirely unfounded. These camps have been set up over quite a large area, right from near the border up to Tura. The number of camps that I visited was about 12 or 13 then. I wish to say that the Government of Assam deserves our congratulations and appreciation for the nice work that they have done in giving relief, that is, medical relief, rations and all those things, to these unfortunate people who have been driven out of East Pakistan.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: May I make a clarification? It is not my intention not to congratulate the Government of Assam. We want that we should try to find out exactly what the situation is. I have got letters from the people in the areas themselves. It is stated that very good arrangements have been made by the Christian missionaries and that they are doing excellent work whereas in the case of other Tribals these arrangements have not been possible. Therefore, without casting aspersions on anybody—I do not want to do that. . . .

An Hon. Member: That is good.