

Raghuramaiah): (a) Six Industrial Co-operative Societies have been formed on the Factory Estates so far and two more are under registration and should start functioning shortly.

(b) Director-General, Ordnance Factories has been authorised to give, at his discretion, to the Societies facilities such as surplus land, buildings, workshops, hutted accommodation, machinery, stores and power, etc., at reasonable rates. The Societies will also be given free technical advice in setting up of the workshops and facilities of training of workers at a nominal charge.

(c) Under the by-laws of these Societies, the General Managers of the Factories, where these Societies have been formed, have suspensory veto powers, in their capacity as Presidents of these Societies.

Pensions to Families of Jawans

1974. Shri Gopal Datt Mengi: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Punjab Government have decided to take into consideration the number of family members while according pension to families of Jawans killed or missing during the Chinese Aggression; and

(b) if so, which other States have taken similar steps?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) and (b). According to information received from the State Government, the Punjab Government have sanctioned a scheme for grant of a regular monthly pension of Rs. 50/- to families of officers and Jawans killed during the Chinese invasion and a monthly allowance of Rs. 10/- per child of such personnel for a maximum number of three children. The Government of Maharashtra have also sanctioned a scheme for grant of short-term pensions up to Rs. 1,800/- per annum to Armed Forces personnel for their deeds of valour and to those wounded in action

and to the dependents of those killed in action.

12 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

(i) REPORTED PHOTOGRAPHING BY CHINESE EMBASSY OFFICIALS OF COMMUNIST FLAGS ON GOVERNMENT PROPERTY

Mr. Speaker: Now the hon. Prime Minister is to make a statement on the Calling Attention Notice of Shri Hem Barua and others on the reported photographing by Chinese Embassy officials of Communist flags on government property.

The Prime Minister, Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Sir, on Friday, 13th September, reference was made in this House to a report appearing in a newspaper to the effect that some red flags were put up at a public place on the 12th September, 1963 in the roundabout taken of these flags by an official of the Chinese Embassy. I informed the House then that I had received no information about this incident from the Delhi Administration or any other source. I had to rely on the newspaper report only. I presumed that was correct. I added that I would enquire into the matter and, if any further information was received, I would place it before the House.

I have now received a report from the Delhi Administration. This states that Communist Party flags were noticed on the morning of the 13th September, 1963 in the roundabout opposite the Willingdon Hospital and the roundabout at the intersection of Reading Road and Shankar Road. These flags were put up by Communist Party workers in connection with the "Petition" and the "March" to Parliament which they were organising on that day. The flags were not attached to the poles used on the occasion of the visits of V.I.Ps flying the Tri-colour and foreign flags, but were

fixed on bamboo poles tethered to the lamp posts at the roundabout mentioned above. No reports of complaints were made by any person about the flying of these Communist flags either to the Police or to any Magistrate or to the New Delhi Municipal Committee. As soon, however, as the flags were noticed, the New Delhi Municipal Committee took action to remove them immediately. It has not been possible to ascertain whether any Chinese Embassy official or any other person took any photographs of these flags.

It may be mentioned that on occasions when political groups or parties organise demonstration or processions, they carry and display prominently their Party flags. Sometimes they even try to fix their flags at public places. The fixing of a flag by itself where the public has access, does not constitute any offence. Any person who may have, therefore, fixed these flags on these roundabouts on the 13th September 1963, is not liable to prosecution. It is, however, the duty of the municipal authorities as well as of the Administration to remove such flags if they find them fixed in unauthorised places. This was promptly done by the New Delhi Municipal Committee in this particular case.

If photographs are taken in any prohibited area, action may be taken under the Defence of India Act. If however photographs are taken at places which are not prohibited, this will not constitute any kind of offence and no action can be taken against any person taking such photographs.

The officials of the Chinese Embassy had been noticed in the past taking photographs of demonstrations and other events in India which they can use for their propaganda purposes. For example, they were noticed taking photographs of the demonstrations made by goldsmiths some days ago in Connaught Place. In this particular instance, however, it has not been possible to ascertain whether the

Chinese Embassy officials took any photographs of flags planted by the members of the Communist Party. It is possible that the Embassy officials took photographs of the "March" and the "Petition" demonstrations. This, according to law, is not forbidden and thus no action can be taken against any person for taking such photographs of these persons or flags.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): The serious part of this incident is not a political party putting up its flags but the Chinese Embassy officials taking photographs of that because, as the hon. Prime Minister has himself said, it is for propaganda purposes and that propaganda is going to be against us...

Mr. Speaker: He should straightaway come to his question.

Shri Hem Barua: ...because the Chinese want to demonstrate to the world and to their own people that there is a section of the people in India who are in favour of the Chinese and who are against this Government.

Mr. Speaker: Has he no question to ask?

Shri Hem Barua: I have. This is a very serious matter; that is why I am saying this. I just wanted to know whether the hon. Prime Minister would inquire into the matter if the Chinese officials actually took the photographs of these flags flying in the capital and, if so, whether the Government is satisfied that the photograph of these flags was taken, what positive steps Government are going to take against these officials in the interest of the security of the country:

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have already stated that after as good inquiries as we have made we have not been able to find out that any Chinese Embassy officials took any photographs. Then, I do not know how we can take action against any person whom we cannot spot.

Shri U. M. Trivedi (Mandsaur): I would like to know the answer to one question arising out of the statement that has been made today by hon. Prime Minister. Has it been considered by the Government whether the hoisting of the Communist Party flags at places where generally flags are hoisted when we receive foreign dignitaries was or was not an act prejudicial to the Defence of India Rules and if it was so prejudicial, what particular action was contemplated against those who wanted to prejudice us in the eyes of the world that whereas we are at war with a Communist country we are at one with the reception of the Communists in this country?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I thought, I had answered this as to what is the position or what action is to be taken or what is not to be taken. Flags are displayed repeatedly by every party present here. Many parties on the other side take out processions and display their flags, put them up at places which, apart from the law about it, did not beautify the place at all.

Shri Indrajit Gupta (Calcutta South West): The Chinese photographed Jan Sangh flags also.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Therefore any rule to be made about it will, naturally, have to apply to every party.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): On a point of clarification, Sir. The statement, if I heard him aright, says that the Police or the investigating authorities could not ascertain the facts about the Chinese Embassy car and the officials taking photographs. Did the Police or the investigating authorities try to contact and examine the correspondents of those newspapers who reported this incident; if not, what is the reason for not contacting them and, if so, what was the fruit of the contact between the Police and the correspondents of the newspapers who reported this?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know whether they contacted or met any correspondents to enquire about this.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: The correspondents reported in the papers about the Chinese Embassy car and the officials taking photographs. The point is whether the Police did or did not contact them at all.

Mr. Speaker: Shri D. C. Sharma.

Shri Hem Barua rose—

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: There should be an investigation.

Mr. Speaker: I should repeat again and again that we ought to conduct the proceedings in an orderly manner. When hon. Members go on standing and asking questions even when they have not been recognised or asked by me, it does not look fair. When three or four hon. Members speak simultaneously, what impression does it give? The House should always be, I should say, pleasant to the eye and agreeable to the ear. (*Interruption*). Again, the same thing while I am making an observation requesting and imploring hon. Members that they are being watched by the whole world just at this moment and our behaviour should be a disciplined one! That was what I wanted to request hon. Members. Shri Sharma.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: May I submit....

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): May I know, Sir....

An Hon. Member: Shri D. C. Sharma shouts at the top of his voice. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. What is this? That conduct is very reprehensible. I do not approve of it. If I am condemning one, it does not mean that the other should behave in a worse manner.

