

[Shri Y. B. Chavan]

(iii) There was lack of integrity in financial matters; and

(iv) The construction of roads was defective.

The above allegations are being investigated.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Are the Government aware of the reports appearing in various newspapers to the effect that certain contracts were granted to the Chinese nationals? If these reports are incorrect, as the hon. Minister has stated they are, has the Government been able to trace out the basis of this information and the sources of this information? If the sources have been traced out, would the Government be willing to place before the House an indication as to what these sources are?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: We have not been able to trace these sources. So, there is no question of communicating them.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): In view of the fact that the allegations against these Tuskers are of a very grave nature—they amount to a sort of treasonable activity, and even if you shoot down the whole lot, the country would not be adequately compensated—may I know what steps Government propose to take against them, pending the present enquiry which the Defence Minister has promised us? May I know whether the Defence of India Act can embrace them or not, or whether the Minister contemplates it?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: Investigations and enquiries have been ordered about the different allegations, and I think we must wait for the conclusions of these investigations.

Shri Hem Barua: May I submit that my question was different? I know that he has instituted an enquiry into the charges I know that. I just want to know what is proposed to be done

in the meantime against these people. Will you allow them to behave in the irresponsible way they have been behaving, when the charges are so serious and they have been read out by the Defence Minister?

Mr. Speaker: Because the charges are so serious, investigation is going on. Should they be punished before it is completed?

Shri Hem Barua: There is the Defence of India Act which can embrace them. Put them in prison. Why not?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Papers to be laid on the Table.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members know that in a Calling Attention only those are called whose names appear. Therefore, others need not rise. Papers to be laid. Hon. Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru) rose—(Cheers).

Shri Ram Sewak Jadav (Barabanki): Sir, on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Member wants to say the clapping was inopportune, I agree with him. He should sit down.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

WHITE PAPER NO. VIII

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of White Paper No. VIII containing Notes, Memoranda and Letters exchanged between the Governments of India and China between October, 1962 and January, 1963.

[Placed in Library. see No. LT-693/63].