

[Shri Kapur Singh]

Economic and Defence Coordination to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

“The high-powered defence mission despatched by the Government of India to negotiate with U.S. and British authorities about India's defence requirements”

The Minister of Economic and Defence Coordination (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): A team of officers led by the Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Economic and Defence Co-ordination, left India on the 14th of April, 1963, for Washington. The team, which has, amongst others, representatives of the Army and of the Air Force, will spend a few days in the United States and later in the United Kingdom. Some members of the team might also visit Canada. The object of the visits to these countries is to pursue with the Governments of these countries the talks we have been having with various missions from these countries in regard to the procurement of defence equipment and stores.

Shri Kapur Singh: May I know whether this high-powered defence mission will negotiate for the acquisition of all weapons necessary for matching our strength with that of the Chinese, including atomic weapons?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The brief is furnished by the Defence Ministry and I think it is fairly comprehensive. We are not at all thinking of atomic weapons.

Mr. Speaker: Papers to be laid on the Table.

Shri Hem Barua: May I ask one question, Sir? Not on this, Sir. Yesterday the hon. Finance Minister said that he was ready to place on the Table of the House a letter written to him by Mr. Ansar Harvani asking him to drop the case against Messrs Serajuddin and Company. May I know if

you have asked him to place it on the Table?

Mr. Speaker: I have not asked him.

Shri Hem Barua: Do you propose to ask him, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He can write to me if he wants to know anything.

12.22 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

AUDIT REPORTS, APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS AND NOTIFICATIONS UNDER EMERGENCY RISKS INSURANCE ACTS

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (i) a copy each of the following Reports under article 151(1) of the Constitution:—
 - (a) Audit Report (Civil), 1963 [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1154/63.]
 - (b) Audit Report (Commercial), 1963 [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1155/63.]
 - (c) Audit Report (Civil) on Revenue Receipts, 1963. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1156/63.]
- (ii) a copy of Appropriation Accounts (Civil), 1961-62. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1157/63.]
- (iii) a copy each of the following Notifications:—
 - (a) The Emergency Risks (Goods) Insurance (Amendment) Scheme, 1963 published in Notification No. S.O. 885, dated the 30th March, 1963, under subsection (6) of section 5 of the Emergency Risks

- (Codes) Insurance Act, 1962. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1158/63.]
- (b) The Emergency Risks (Factories) Insurance (Amendment) Scheme, 1963 published in Notification No. S.O. 886, dated the 30th March, 1963, under sub-section (7) of section 3 of the Emergency Risks (Factories) Insurance Act, 1962. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1159/63.]
- (c) S.O. No. 887, dated the 30th March, 1963 under section 20 of the Emergency Risks (Factories) Insurance Act, 1962. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1160/63.]
- (d) S.O. No. 888, dated the 30th March, 1963 under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Emergency Risks (Goods) Insurance Act, 1962. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1161/63.]

Shri Ansar Harvani (Bisauli): Yesterday the hon. Finance Minister said he would place a personal letter written to him by me on the Table of the House. Since I have been very much misrepresented by the monopolist press, I would request...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He can write to me. That is the answer I have given to Mr. Hem Barua also.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

THIRTY-FIRST REPORT

Shri Dasappa (Bangalore): I beg to present the Thirty-first Report of the Estimates Committee on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Hundred and Thirty-second Report of the Estimates Committee on the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture)—Indian Central Tobacco Committee, Madras.

12.24 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MEMBER

Shri A. K. Gopalan (Kasergod): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I would like to make the following statement. In the course of his reply to the debate on the demands for grants for Home Affairs, the hon. Home Minister, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, referred to a certain Bengali pamphlet and what he said created the impression that the Communist Party or at least some of its Members were responsible for its publication. We asked for proof.

The hon. Speaker also observed as follows:

"...The hon. Minister must have satisfied himself or he should—as he has said—satisfy himself that he believes or has reason to believe that the author is a Communist. At least that much he must satisfy himself."

Thereafter, the hon. Home Minister stated:

"I have never said that I shall not give the necessary information. I have never said that...I thought I shall take her (i.e. Shrimati Renu Chakravarty) into confidence".

Following this, the hon. Home Minister was pleased to meet three Members of our Group.

All that we wish to say now is that the Home Minister did not produce any evidence to prove that this pamphlet was written or published by the Communist Party or by any of its members. Naturally, we could not be satisfied.

We have sought your permission to make this statement only to set the record straight.

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. Minister want to say anything?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Sir, I had