

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि लंका में कितने भारतीय ऐसे हैं जिनको बर्हा की नागरिकता प्राप्त नहीं है और जब वे भारत से निकले हुए हैं, तो वे गृह-विहीन स्थिति में कब तक रहेंगे ?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Over 7 lakhs.

Congo

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- *618. { **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**
Shri Harish Chandra Mathur
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri A. V. Raghavan:
Shri Pottekkatt:
Shri Yallamanda Reddy:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether our Government have moved U.N. for energetic measures to end the secession of Katanga:

(b) whether foreign mercenaries have been cleared out of Katanga; and

(c) how long our forces are likely to stay on in Congo?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) Yes, Sir. We have used all our influence to this end; because we believe that the termination of the secession of Katanga is essential, if normally and stability is to be restored in the Congo; as well as to prevent it from becoming a battle field of conflicting foreign interests.

(b) Some foreign mercenaries have been apprehended and expelled; some remain; some are arriving even now.

(c) It is not yet possible to answer this.

We have placed our forces at the disposal of the UN; and we do not think that it would be proper on our part to lay down any rigid time table.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: How far has the recent proposal of the Secretary-General of UN found favour with Katanga as well as the great Powers?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: It has been favourably received. He has made an appeal to all the Powers to follow it up so that peace can be maintained in the Congo.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: Have the Governments concerned examined the possibility of imposing some further economic blockade in case Katanga persists in its cession?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: That is what the Secretary-General has mentioned in his proposal.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether there are any reasons which may lead to the reduction of Indian personnel in the Congo? Is there any likelihood of a reduction of Indian troops in Congo?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: That is given in the original answer, that we have placed them at the disposal of the United Nations, and we cannot prescribe a time-table, and as soon as the situation changes, they will come.

Shri Narendra Singh Mahida: What is the expenditure incurred on these troops in the Congo?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I have not got the figures here.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): May I add that the expenditure, the extra expenditure, is met by the United Nations? We only pay the normal expenditure on their salaries etc.; all else is met by the United Nations.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: In the plan of Mr. Thant there is a stage for negotiation, and finally the use of force. May I know the stage at which this particular plan is being implemented now?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I just mentioned that these proposals have

been put forward and an appeal has been made. If they are received favourably by the Powers which have interests in Congo, certainly the situation will improve.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know if it is a fact that the Indian troops in the Congo are itching for a showdown in the Congo and our Government also favour a similar development there? If so, has this been brought to the notice of the UN?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The Indian armed forces are not allowed to indulge in the practice of itching.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I know whether these proposals put forward by the United Nations Secretary-General include any provision for safeguarding the security of political prisoners, including Mr. Gizenga?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I should imagine this has nothing to do with those proposals. That is a separate matter entirely.

Shri Sonavane: What is the number of our military personnel in the Congo and how long have they been there? Have persons remaining there for long been brought over and fresh personnel sent in their place?

Mr. Speaker: Part of it has been answered already.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The number has changed constantly. I cannot give the exact number at this moment.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Arising out of the answer to part (c) of the question, is there any truth in certain press reports to the effect that some of our personnel in the Congo will be withdrawn from that part of the world and deployed for UN purposes in West Irian? If that is an indication of the situation easing in Congo, is Government thinking of commencing a phased withdrawal of our troops in the Congo?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The assumption in the first part of the ques-

tion is wrong. There is no proposal that our army will be deployed in West Irian.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Apparently, Sir, there is some difference of opinion on the Treasury Benches, between the Prime Minister and the Minister of State.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No difference. Some officers have been withdrawn, six or seven, from the Gaza unit, I do not think from the Congo. It may be they may withdraw one or two officers, they are both under the UN, but that does not affect our forces there.

Shri Hem Barua: May I make a personal explanation.

Mr. Speaker: Nothing has been said needing a personal explanation.

Shri Hem Barua: My question was based on world press reports. I am mentioning this lest I be misunderstood for the "itching of our troops".

Mr. Speaker: There is no question.

Flats for Diplomats

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*619.	}	Shri Surendra Pal Singh:
		Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
		Shri S. C. Samanta:
		Shri Subodh Hansda:
		Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
	}	Shri Yashpal Singh:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign diplomats in Delhi have to pay exorbitant house rents;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have taken decision to construct air-conditioned flats for diplomats; and

(c) if so the estimated cost of construction of these flats?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon) (a) The rent payable in each case is settled by a foreign diplomat with the Landlord direct. In most capitals of the world, the diplomats generally offer higher rents