

श्री यशपाल सिंह : इस में चाहे एक्सटर्नल मिनिस्ट्री हो या होम मिनिस्ट्री हो सब की रिस्पॉसिबिलिटी है और सब की मिलीजुली जिम्मेदारी है। नागा लीडर मि० फीजो बर्गर हमारी इजाजत के और बर्गर हमारे पासपोर्ट के यहां से चले गये और ग्रेट ब्रिटेन ने उन को पनाह दी और जो वहां के सिटिजेन्स के लिये सहूलियतें होती हैं वह उन को दी जा रही हैं। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या सरकार ने ग्रेट ब्रिटेन से यह पूछा है कि हमारे चोर को वहां पर पनाह क्यों दी गई। अगर पूछा है तो ग्रेट ब्रिटेन ने उस का क्या जवाब दिया।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब आप फीजो पर चले गये। अगला सवाल।

British proposal regarding Multi-lateral Nuclear Force

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- Shri Hem Barua:
- Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
- Shrimati Tarkeshwari Saha:
- Shri Solanki:
- Shri P. K. Deo:
- Shri Narasimha Reddy:
- *271. Shri Madhu Limaye:
- Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:
- Shri P. C. Borooah:
- Shri R. Barua:
- Shri Yashpal Singh:
- Shri D. D. Mantri:
- Shri Basumatari:
- Shri Krishnapal Singh:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Britain has proposed a multi-lateral nuclear force east of Suez as part of a plan to protect Asian countries following China's development of atomic bombs; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction to this proposal?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) Government have seen reports of such a proposal but no official communication on this subject has been received from the British Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know if the attention of the Government has been drawn to a statement made by the French nuclear strategist Lt. Gen. Gallois to the effect that the cost of nuclear weapons is within the easy reach of a country like India? In that context, and in view of belligerent China developing fast into a massive nuclear power, Indonesia following in China's footsteps and Pakistan also contemplating to do that, may I know whether our Government have reconsidered the desirability or the urgency of manufacturing the atom bomb?

Shri D. C. Sharma: Will he paraphrase what he has said?

Shri Hem Barua: I am ready to repeat it.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The Prime Minister has already made a statement about our position with regard to nuclear weapons.

Shri Hem Barua: First I wanted to know.....

Mr. Speaker: In view of all that he has stated, which I cannot recollect, ultimately he wants to know whether Government has reconsidered its policy on manufacturing atom bombs. That is all. The reply is that the policy of the Government is very clear. That means that whatever has been stated already, Government sticks to that.

Shri Hem Barua: I wanted to draw the attention of the Government to the recent developments and the statements made by the French nuclear strategist about the cost of nuclear weapons.

Mr. Speaker: After hearing all those latest developments if the Minister says that the Government's policy is the same, where is the necessity of pursuing it?

Shri Hem Barua: She said that Government had already announced its policy. I wanted to know whether Government was going to reconsider that policy in the light of these developments.

Mr. Speaker: Is that the second question?

Shri Hem Barua: No, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Then the second might be put.

Shri Hem Barua: I wanted to know why Government are not going to reconsider their policy in view of these new developments.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Government has no reason to reconsider the policy.

Mr. Speaker: Can she give any reasons to him?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Government does not think it necessary to reconsider its policy on this subject.

Shri Hem Barua: The Prime Minister is ready to give a reply.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): There are various reasons on account of which we took this decision. This is a matter which has international implications and we feel that we should try to stop further nuclear proliferation and in that context it is necessary that we should not ourselves go in for the manufacture of atom bombs or other nuclear weapons. As the House is aware this matter is being considered by the Disarmament Committee where we have taken up a particular attitude and it is a matter which should be considered at the highest level in the world forum. I think we have to pursue our own policies; we can reconsider it of course later on if there is any new situation or development.

Mr. Speaker: Savitri Nigam.

Shri Hem Barua: I have not put my second question.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: While fully endorsing the Government stand I would like to know what was the context of the formal proposal which was received by India and what were the contents of that proposal and which were the countries which were ready to participate in this Force?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I have already said that no formal communication was received from the British Government.

Mr. Speaker: With utmost respect to the hon. lady Member, I may say that her questions are also lengthening out and when we reach the end, we forget the beginning.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know whether the British High Commissioner went back to the United Kingdom in July, and whether he brought some proposals, informal ones, from the British Prime Minister for the Government of India because he had discussions with Mr. Bottomley also and what are the main features of the proposal which he has brought?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I have already said that no formal proposal was received from the British Government.

Shri Hem Barua: I may kindly be permitted to put my second question.

Mr. Speaker: Both have been put.

श्री मधु लिमये: पश्चिमी एशिया और अग्नेय एशिया में सुरक्षा योजना ब्रिटेन द्वारा बनाई गई थी, अणुशक्ति बल को ले कर नहीं बल्कि जो परंपरागत फौजी दल हैं उन को ले कर। इस का नतीजा हम ने देखा कि बराबर पक्षपात हुआ है। काश्मीर के मामले में और कच्छ के मामले में ब्रिटेन ने पाकिस्तान का साथ दिया है। इस लिये मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो नया प्रस्ताव आया है, औपचारिक ढंग से हो

या अनौपचारिक ढंग से, क्या सरकार उस के बारे में अपनी प्रतिक्रिया बतलायेगी कि हिन्दुस्तान को उस में कोई दिलचस्पी नहीं है और हिन्दुस्तान का उस से कोई हित होने वाला नहीं है।

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Swaran Singh): The Minister has already said that there is no proposal put forward to the Government of India on behalf of the British Government. About the other matter we have made our position quite clear from time to time that we are not interested in any of these military pacts.

Shri R. Barua: What is the Government's reaction to the proposal that the dissemination of nuclear weapons to non-nuclear powers in NATO should be decided by mutual consultations among the three super powers, the United States, the United Kingdom and the USSR? If so, how far does it tally with our proposals regarding the nuclear policy?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Our representative at the 18-nation Disarmament Committee has already clearly stated that we would like to have some undertaking regarding the transmission of nuclear weapons technology to others. We have put forward five proposals seeking certain undertakings regarding the manufacture and the transmission of knowledge in respect of nuclear weapons.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या किसी देश ने इस प्रस्ताव को माना भी है, और जेनेवा

कोई इस तरह का प्रस्ताव आया है ?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: This is being put forward in the Committee; there is no question of accepting it.

Shri Krishnapal Singh: The Prime Minister stated that the Govt. would wait for the result of the Disarmament Conference. That might take a long time. In the meantime, our needs

are pressing. Is that not a sufficiently strong reason for revising the policy? I think the British Government has reminded.

Mr. Speaker: He is arguing now.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: No, Sir. I do not think it is time for us to reconsider or revise our policy.

Shri Daji: Was any such suggestion made at the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference which our Prime Minister attended, and if so, was it made clear to them by him during the Commonwealth Conference that we are not interested in a South-East Asia military organisation.

Shri Swaran Singh: No, Sir. No suggestion was ever made in the course of the Commonwealth Conference about this subject. Our position in this respect is fully known to the British Government.

Shri P. R. Patel: Our policy is not to produce nuclear weapons. At the same time, our policy is not to join any nuclear pact. I want to know, if we are attacked by nuclear weapons, how we are going to defend ourselves.

Mr. Speaker: It is too wide a question to be answered: how we are going to defend ourselves.

श्री तुलशीदास जाधव : हम न्यू-क्लियर वॉपन तैयार नहीं करते। क्या यह तै हूँगा कि अगर हमारे ऊपर हमला हुआ तो क्या वे देश जिनके पास न्यूक्लियर वॉपन हैं हमारी मदद करेंगे ?

श्री स्वर्ण सिंह : कोई ऐसी बात तै नहीं हुई है। हमें न्यूक्लियर वॉपन्स से हमले का कोई खतरा नहीं है।

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: The Prime Minister of the United Kingdom has more than once stated on the floor of Parliament and outside his great concern regarding India's defence in the context of the explosion of nuclear device by China and in pursuance of this deep concern by

the United Kingdom he has stated that he is going ahead with this type of agreement and so on. I want to know by what right the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom is looking after our defence in this vital matter, in this policy matter, without consulting this Government, and do I take it that the Government sees no reason either to protest to the Government of the United Kingdom in spite of this, namely, that she is trying to shape our policy on defence, and we have nothing to say to the United Kingdom, or we have taken no notice at all of this? What are the reasons?

Shri Swaran Singh: The expression of opinion or concern about a developing situation is not equivalent to taking a hand in shaping the defence policy and the hon. Member, while putting it in that form, is mixing up the two. We have explained to the British Government and to several other friendly countries our attitude in this respect. This has been stated on the floor of the House more than once that if the main nuclear powers are genuinely interested in ensuring their non-proliferation then they must think of some method of reassuring the non-nuclear powers of their safety if this race for nuclear development continues. We have made our position quite clear. The British Government or the British Prime Minister is not taking any step and is not suggesting anything to us to shape our defence policy. It is for this country and for this Parliament to shape the defence policy.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I have no objection to anybody expressing concern. . . .

Mr. Speaker: First the question took four minutes to be put. The answer given should be enough.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: May I know whether the Central Government are in a position to assure the House that in spite of its decision not to reconsider this policy on production of nuclear weapons, the national security

of this country would not be rendered unsafe?

Shri Swaran Singh: The Prime Minister has said that at present we see no reason to change the decision that we have already taken not to manufacture the bomb. If any new situation develops, certainly the country can review the decision.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Is the Government now prepared to give a categorical assurance to the House that in spite of the decision not to make nuclear weapons, the national security would not be jeopardised? That is the assurance we want.

Shri Buta Singh: Do our government realise that nuclear umbrella will mean satellite dependence? Are we going to abandon our sovereignty or are we going to manufacture the atom bomb?

Mr. Speaker: That is another way of pursuing the same thing.

Shri Swaran Singh: We have not accepted any nuclear umbrella. So, the fears entertained by the hon. member should not be there at all. (Interruptions).

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Though the government has not received any formal proposal, we have seen from the press that such an idea is being thought of by Britain. In view of the known sympathy of Britain for Pakistan and in view of the fact that we have seen CENTO and SEATO, would the Prime Minister make a statement that we are not interested in the so-called proposals for defence and Britain should not proceed with it, and such mischievous propaganda should be nipped in the bud?

Shri La! Bhadur Shastri: The position has been made absolutely clear and the British Government knows our mind and attitude. We have been against it and we will remain against it.