

LOK SABHA

*Monday, December 7, 1959/
Agrahayana 16, 1881 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven
the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Khrushchev Plan for Disarmament

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*610. { Shri D. C. Sharma;
 Shri Sadhan Gupta;
 Shri A. K. Gopalan;
 Shri Vasudevan Nair;
 Shri S. M. Banerjee;
 Shri P. G. Deb:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Khrushchev Plan for Disarmament has been considered by Government; and

(b) if so, their reaction thereto?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) and (b). The Government of India welcome the Soviet plan for general and complete disarmament. They believe that, with goodwill and determination from all sides, its main purposes are possible of accomplishment.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the Indian Delegation to U.N. has expressed any views on the subject and if so, what were the views?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: The Chairman of the Indian Delegation put forward some suggestions. He put forward

the following suggestions regarding the future discussions of the disarmament plan by the 10-nation committee:

(i) The world should have some knowledge of what is going on in the 10-nation committee.

(ii) The 10-nation committee should function under the umbrella of the Summit.

(iii) Regarding the implementation of the disarmament agreement, he suggested that it was worth-while considering whether the Nuremberg method of making the individual violator subject to penalty under the national laws of his own country would not be the right thing to do.

This has appeared in the Press.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the Prime Minister or the Government of India propose to discuss the Khrushchev Plan for disarmament with Mr. Eisenhower when he visits this country?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: This plan has already been discussed at the U.N. level.

Shri Kasliwal: The hon. Parliamentary Secretary has referred to the speech of the Chairman of the Indian Delegation about the disarmament committee. May I know whether the disarmament committee which had been created by a resolution sponsored by India and Yugoslavia will consider the Khrushchev Plan or they will proceed with their deliberations from the point where it was left in the London conference of disarmament?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: I believe the Soviet proposal will be considered in the first instance by this 10-nation committee, which will meet sometime next year.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Since the Government of India has welcomed this plan, may I know whether any steps are being taken to popularise this plan in other countries through our ambassadors?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: That is not our job.

Shri P. G. Deb: May I know whether the leader of the Indian Delegation consulted the Government of India before making his own independent statement on the 3rd November, 1959?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: It was not an independent statement; it was under Government of India's instructions.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: May I know whether the hon. Parliamentary Secretary would assure the House that this disarmament business will not be considered for our internal purposes?

Mr. Speaker: What is the good of asking the Parliamentary Secretary for an assurance?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: He represents the Prime Minister.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the disarmament plan sponsored by our Government is in any way different from the one put forward by Mr. Khrushchev?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Our plan for disarmament and the Soviet proposal may have something in common, but they are different suggestions according to different situations.

Shri Tangamani rose—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is not one of the sponsors of the question. I was a little indulgent to Shri Sharma because he is a sponsor of the question. Next question.

Closure of Cotton Textile Mills in Orissa

*611. **Shri Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 15 on the 3rd August, 1959 and state:

(a) the names of the two Cotton Textile Mills which closed down completely in Orissa;

(b) the reasons for their complete closure; and

(c) whether attempts are being made to reopen them?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Messrs. Kalinga Textiles, Rajgangpur and M/s. Orissa Cotton Mills, Bhagatpur (Cuttack District).

(b) and (c). Both the mills are intrinsically uneconomic. The mills are moreover in financial difficulties and cannot, therefore, undertake any programme of expansion to bring them to economic levels. The power supply to the mills had to be cut off by the State Government as the electricity dues were not paid. Government are not aware of any attempts being made to revive these mills.

Shri Panigrahi: May I know whether these two textile mills had started production since their operation?

Shri Kanungo: Yes, Sir; they were in operation and they were producing.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know the number of workers who have been retrenched and the steps taken to re-employ them?

Shri Kanungo: The number of labourers involved is 207 in Kalinga Textiles, Rajgangpur and 138 in Orissa Cotton Mills, Bhagatpur.

Shri Supakar: May I know for how long these two textile mills were in operation?

Shri Kanungo: They were in operation for more than two years.