

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) and (b). It has been suggested to States that they might set up inter-departmental committees to watch progress in achieving economies in construction costs. A number of States have already set up such committees. The setting up of a Committee on these lines is under consideration at the Centre. Through the establishment of such committees, it should be possible to consider fully the construction element of each development programme and the points at which and means whereby economies can be effected.

Shri Achar: May I know whether any of these committees have been actually formed? If not, in what stage are they?

Shri S. N. Mishra: I have mentioned that some of the States have already formed such committees. At the moment, their number is seven.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know whether this project was considered in isolation or in conjunction with the project for administrative reforms mooted by the Home Ministry when it considered the complete picture. Have any steps been taken thereon?

Shri S. N. Mishra: It has been figuring in all relevant contexts. I can only emphasise that we are giving it the most serious attention.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: The Home Ministry has recently announced all the administrative reforms which it proposes for the better implementation of the Plan. But this particular project has not been included; as the hon. Minister himself says, this is under consideration. May I know how the matter stands?

Shri S. N. Mishra: So far as its inclusion in a particular paper is concerned, it may not have found its place there, but if the hon. Member

takes the trouble of reading the Plan, particularly pages 285-287, he will find elaborate suggestions made in this respect.

Solution of Congo Problem

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*535. { **Shri Kalika Singh:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Chuni Lal:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) the original proposals of the Government of India about solving the Congo problem;

(b) which of the proposals have been gradually accepted and have been or are being implemented;

(c) what, according to the Government of India, yet remains to be done about Congo; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to bring about final solution of Congolese problem?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) to (d). A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

In the view of the Government of India the solution to the Congo problem lay in:

(i) reconvening of the Congo Parliament;

(ii) release of all political prisoners;

(iii) withdrawal from Congo of all Belgian military and para-military personnel, including political advisers and mercenaries;

(iv) channelling of all arms supplies to the Congo through the UN;

(v) disarming by UN of all private armies in the Congo and failing that, a strong appeal to all parties to the conflict in the Congo to neutralise their respective troops.

As a result of the adoption of a Resolution by the Security Council on the 21st February, 1961 the Belgian Government agreed to withdraw the Belgian military personnel and political advisers under their control, but expressed their inability to withdraw Belgian personnel owing allegiance to different Congolese Governments.

The despatch of Indian troops of one full Brigade strength to serve in the Congo under the UN was one of the steps taken by the Government of India to help bring in about a final solution to the Congo problem, in as much as the presence of Indian and other UN troops in the Congo stabilized an otherwise deteriorating situation and paved the way for the reconvening of Parliament.

Our proposal for a meeting of the Congolese Parliament was ultimately accepted by the Security Council in its Resolution of 21st February, 1961, and as a result, the Congolese Parliament met in July and formed a new Government with near-unanimity, an event which augurs well for the future.

Shri Kalika Singh: From the statement, I find that one Brigade from India has been sent to the Congo. May I know when that Brigade is expected to return? And what is the attitude of the new Government of the Congo to Indian troops there?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): We cannot say when they will return. But in view of the improvement of the situation in the Congo, we hope that our forces, if not all of them, part of them, may be able to return in the near future.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी: बयान में लिखा है :

"As a result of the adoption of a Resolution...the Belgian Government agreed to withdraw the Belgian military personnel and political advisers under their control".

मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उसके बाद से बेल्जियम गवर्नमेंट ने अपने मिलिटरी ऐडवाइजर्स को वापस बुला लिया है या नहीं ।

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू: अपने मिलिटरी ऐडवाइजर्स वगैरह को तो वापस बुला लिया था लेकिन वहाँ सिविल बेल्जियनन्स काफी रहते हैं ।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी: मैं मिलिटरी की बात कहता हूँ । बयान में लिखा है :

"The Belgian Government agreed to withdraw the Belgian military personnel and political advisers under their control".

मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उसके बाद से बेल्जियन गवर्नमेंट ने अपने मिलिटरी पर्सनल और ऐडवाइजर्स को वापस ले लिया है ।

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : फोरन बाद उन्होंने ले लिया था । मैं यकायक नहीं कह सकता कि कोई बच नहीं गया , लेकिन बहुत सारे वापस गये थे ।

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: In the statement, it is mentioned that one of the problems which we wanted to be solved was the question of the disarming by UN of all private armies in the Congo. At the moment, what is the position with regard to that?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: So far as I know, they have not been disarmed. That is one of the things that has got to be done there.