

(d) The villagers were told that protection works would be investigated and would be done to the extent feasible.

(e) Mouths of a few Dhars, namely, Alola, Tardiha and Kushiali, which take off from the Kosi and affect the villages are being closed. In respect of the village Tardiha, it was proposed to construct a spur to afford protection, but, as a result of experiments at the Poona Research Station, it has been found that the spur might prove injurious for the embankment and villages lower down. Alternative Protective measures are under study and work will be undertaken as soon as a suitable protective measure is evolved.

Shri L. N. Mishra : May I know whether the provision of marginal embankments around the villages was examined?

Shri Hathi : It was examined. The experiments proved that the waters would be deflected and perhaps it would be injurious to the next village. That way a series of bunds would have to be constructed which perhaps may be very expensive and may not even serve the purpose.

Shri L. N. Mishra : Will the Government consider the proposal of rehabilitating those people who are expected to be adversely affected as a result of these things?

Shri Hathi : In case the measures evolved are not found to be sufficient, then others will have to be considered.

GENEVA AGREEMENT

***1966. Shri Kamath :** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a Reuter report from London dated the 10th April to the effect that Britain has officially taken the view that South Viet Nam is not bound by the terms of the Geneva Agreement of 1954 on Indo-China; and

(b) if so, whether India has been informed accordingly by the U.K. Government?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan) : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

Shri Kamath : On what grounds has the UK Government come to the conclusion that South Viet Nam is not bound by the terms of the Geneva Agreement of 1954? Have those grounds been communicated to Government, and if so, do those grounds appear or sound reasonable to the Prime Minister?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru) : I would prefer not to enter into an argument about this matter at this stage. There are the two Co-Chairmen of the Geneva Conference. They are still meeting in London and considering the subject of Indo-China. We are in communication with them and so are the Chairmen of the International Commissions. Therefore, I submit that it would not be desirable for me to enter into a controversy at this stage with any of the Governments concerned.

Shri Kamath : Is it a fact that the French forces have pulled out, or are perhaps shortly pulling out, of South Viet Nam, and has India, as Chairman of the International Supervisory Commission, been requested by the Co-Chairman of the U.K. Government to continue to function in South Viet Nam or Viet Nam, even beyond the dead line when elections are scheduled to take place?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru : It is true that the French forces have withdrawn. It is also true that the International Commissions have been requested by the two Co-Chairmen to continue and the International Commissions have agreed to do so for the time being pending the solution of certain problems which they have posed to the two Co-Chairmen; that

is, the Chairmen of the International Commissions have pointed out that unless certain satisfactory steps are taken it will not be possible for them to function properly. It is no good their saying they can function, if they cannot function. Therefore, they are waiting for the two Co-Chairmen to come to some conclusion about it.

Shri Kamath : Is it a fact that the Prime Minister has suggested to the two Co-Chairmen that the elections in South Viet Nam and North Viet Nam might be held at a later date, if not in July, 1956? I want to know whether such a proposal has been made.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru : That is not for me to suggest, but I believe the idea was thrown out that if the obligations of the Geneva Agreement and the principles were accepted, it might be conveniently arranged to have the actual giving effect to the elections later on.

Shri Sadhan Gupta : May I know, now that the French forces have withdrawn and they were entrusted with the function of giving protection to the members of the Commission, what is the position of the members of the Commission in South Viet Nam; whether their safety is in jeopardy?

The Minister without Portfolio (Shri Krishna Menon) : The withdrawal of the French forces have not been completed. The withdrawal will be completed, under the present arrangements, only at the end of June. We have been informed recently that even irrespective of this withdrawal, at the request of the South Viet Nam Government, the French Government have agreed to a French military mission continuing in South Viet Nam. The French Government have also informed us that till 30th of June, they will continue to give logistic support to the Commission. The South Viet Nam Government have unilaterally proclaimed that they will offer protection to the personnel of the Commission. But, as the Prime Minister has just now said, all these matters are being carried

on as best as possible pending a final way out being found by the Co-Chairmen.

Shri Kamath : When the French Foreign Minister, M. Pineau, was here sometime ago, was it suggested to him by the Prime Minister that he might try to persuade South Viet Nam to accept the obligations under the Geneva Agreement?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru : I cannot go into private conversations, but, considering that the relations between the South Viet Nam Government and the French Government were not of extreme cordiality, it was hardly feasible for me to suggest to one of them to persuade the other.

Shri N. M. Lingam : May I know if the U.S. Government, which has great influence with the South Viet Nam Government, is co-operating with the two Co-Chairmen of the Conference?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru : The U. S. Government is no doubt very greatly interested in Indo-China and the solution of the problem, but so far as Geneva Conference is concerned, the U.S. Government was not intimately connected with the decisions made. It is for the two Co-Chairmen to find out a solution.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

***1926 Shri Bhakta Darshan (on behalf of Shri Krishnacharya Joshi) :** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the steps taken to implement the Publicity Programme in the Community Project Area?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar) : Publicity Programme in the Community Projects is a part of the overall Integrated Publicity Programme of the Five Year Plan and is arranged through all the media and also in collaboration with Community Projects Administration. A statement showing broad heads of the activities is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix XI, annexure No. 46].