

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the Enquiry Officer considered the two letters which this particular gentleman who committed suicide has written—one to his wife and the other to his superior officer—before he committed suicide?

Shri Raj Bahadur: These letters were taken into consideration by the Enquiry Officer. About the allegation of harassment, I might say that in the normal course, it would be expected that if the Divisional Engineer, who was his immediate superior, was causing him any harassment, he should have brought that matter to the notice of the next higher officer, namely, the Additional Chief Engineer or the next higher officer, the Chief Engineer. No such report was ever made by the unfortunate officer who committed suicide. The allegation of harassment has not also been found to be substantiated.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Irrespective of the findings in the report, may I know whether the Government have taken any steps to warn the officers mentioned in the letters referred to, that they should be above-board?

Shri Raj Bahadur: As a matter of fact, from the enquiry itself, it appears that the only difference of opinion was in regard to the allotment of duties between the wireless supervisors and to the shifting of one of the officers from one building to another. These are two general points in which there was a difference of opinion and they may not be considered, by any stretch of imagination, to be a harassment.

Shri Kamath: Did the enquiry elicit the fact that the officer who had committed suicide had made representations earlier to the authorities here, through his superior officer, and that they were suppressed by the superior officer and not transmitted to the higher authorities?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I have already stated that there was no such representation made to the higher officers, nor any such complaint made.

Atomic Reactor

*114. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the experiments carried out in Nuclear physics at the Indian Atomic Reactor;

(b) whether the Atomic Energy Establishment is planning to start a reactor school with the help of scientists from other countries?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 24].

(b) It is proposed to start a reactor school, but no foreign assistance is required for this purpose.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know how many experiments were successful?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I have mentioned in the list the number of experiments which have been carried out in this plant.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know how many plants are working at present?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I do not have the information at present.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: May I know whether isotopes are produced in this reactor?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I want notice.

Shri N. M. Lingam: May I know what progress has been made towards the establishment of an atomic power plant, and whether the Government have any definite scheme for it?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I want notice.

International Court of Justice

*115. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the progress, up-to-date, of the proceedings in the case filed by Portugal against India in the Court of International Justice at Hague?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): The Government of India received a notice from the International Court of Justice, The Hague, intimating that the Portuguese Government had filed proceedings against India concerning certain rights of passage over Indian territory to Dadra and Nagar Haveli. The Government of India have decided to contest the jurisdiction of the International Court in this case and also the rights claimed by the Portuguese Government. The following steps have so far been taken in this matter:

(a) In accordance with the provisions of Article 31 of the Statute of the International Court, India informed the Registrar of the Court on the 22nd October, 1956, of its intention to exercise its right to select an *ad hoc* judge and nominated Shri M. C. Chagla, Chief Justice of Bombay for this purpose.

(b) The Hague Court had originally fixed the 15th December, 1956 as the date for the submission of our Counter-Memorial or preliminary objection. In view of the wide scope of research involved and the impossibility of preparing our reply within the stipulated time, the Government of India sought an extension of time. The Court has now granted an extension of time till the 15th April 1957 for filing our preliminary objection.

Shri Kamath: As a part or as the main part of India's preliminary contention, is it Government's intention to challenge *ab initio* the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice at the Hague when they take up this Portuguese complaint?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: It is our intention to contest the jurisdiction of the Court to try this case.

Shri Kamath: Has the Court issued any stay order or an injunction *ad interim* restraining India from taking any action with regard to the integration or any further steps towards the integration of Dadra and Nagar Haveli with the Indian Union?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The Court has not yet taken up the case at all.

Shri Kamath: If the Court has not issued any order, in the light of what the Minister said yesterday, what restrains India from taking any action towards the integration of Dadra and Nagar Haveli with the Indian Union?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: It is not certainly a matter which can be replied to on a supplementary question.

Shri Kamath: Looking to the background and the circumstances of this entire story, episode, does Government propose to appoint a Goan lawyer at least as a junior counsel, in this case before the Hague Court?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Our team of legal experts in this case is led by the Attorney-General of India, and speaking from memory, I can say that Sir Henry Soskice and Professor Guggenheim and, of course, our own junior officers, are associated with him.

Shri Kamath: Any Goan?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: It is a question of law. It is not a question of bringing a man from Goa.

Shri Kamath: What are the names of those associated with the team?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Our Attorney-General is leading our team and Sir Henry Soskice, the eminent British Counsel, and Professor Guggenheim.

Shri Joachim Alva: Is Government aware of any incident when the Government of Bombay flatly refused the passage of Portuguese soldier or soldiers through Bombay to Goa.

Mr. Speaker: How does this question arise?

Shri Joachim Alva: That is our case. We never allowed a single Portuguese soldier to cross through Indian territory.

Mr. Speaker: The case is pending in the International Court of Justice.