

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Thursday, November 19, 1959/Kartika
28, 1881 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair.]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Hotel Cecil, Delhi

*122. Shri Keshava: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation was made by the retrenched employees of the closed Hotel Cecil, Delhi to secure the retrenchment compensation and the right of residence in the quarters, and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Yes

(b) With the help of the conciliation machinery of the Delhi Administration an agreement has been reached between the parties.

Shri Keshava: May we know whether it is not a fact that a few of the items had not been agreed to by the management for being referred to the tribunal?

Shri Abid Ali: No, Sir. As far as I understand, all the points in dispute have been settled.

Shri Muhammed Elias: What is the nature of the agreement which has been reached between the employees and the employer?

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Shri Abid Ali: The question was about the amount due to the workers because of the closure. That has been agreed to be paid.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: Is the Government aware of the number of employees who have been taken over by the school that has taken over the premises of the Cecil Hotel?

Shri Abid Ali: Out of 265, most of the employees have found alternative employment. Some have left Delhi and for others the Employment Exchange will be helpful.

जीनी राजदूतावास द्वारा प्रचार

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श्री व० ला० द्विवेदी :
श्री डा० ना० तिवारी :
श्री हरिचन्द्र जयपुर :
श्री राम कृष्ण गुप्त :
श्री पद्म देव :
श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री :
श्री नरदेव स्मरक :
श्री व० का० भट्टाचार्य :
डा० राम सुभग सिंह :
श्री न० रा० मुनिस्वामी :
श्री हेम बरवा :
श्रीमती मफीदा अहमद :
श्री सुरेन्द्र नाथ द्विवेदी :
श्री अमजद अली :
श्री आचार्य :
श्री रविशंकर टांडिया :
श्री वी० वं० शर्मा :

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क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस बात की ध्यान में रखते हुए कि विदेशी राजदूतावासों द्वारा किसी

अन्य देश अथवा भारत के विरुद्ध प्रचार खासगी बांटना अथवा उसको जनता में फैलाना निषिद्ध है, क्या चीनी राजदूतावास की अनुसरदायित्वपूर्ण कार्यवाहियों को रोकने के लिये कोई उपाय किये गये हैं अथवा करने का विचार है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार का ध्यान कॉल-बॉय में चीनी बाणिज्यिक अभिकरण द्वारा किये जा रहे भारत विरोधी प्रचार की श्रौर दिलाया गया है, और क्या उमको रोकने के लिये कोई उपाय किये गये हैं ;

(ग) क्या चीनी लोग ऐसी ही कार्य-वाहियाँ सिक्किम और भूटान के राज्यों में कर रहे हैं,

(घ) क्या इस सम्बन्ध में चीनी सरकार से कोई पत्र-व्यवहार किया गया है, और

(ङ) यदि हा, तो उन्होंने क्या उत्तर दिया है ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) to (e) Government have seen some bulletins etc., issued by the Chinese Mission in India, which are critical of Government of India's policies and actions. The attention of the Chinese Government has been drawn to these instances where they have exceeded the normal limits of recognised international usage. Notes exchanged between the two Governments are included in White Paper-II

Apart from the above, no other restrictions have been placed on the bulletins of the Chinese Embassy so far but Government are constantly vigilant that no propaganda activity against the integrity of India or the validity of her frontiers is carried on by foreign missions within the country.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि अलावा इन बुलेटिन्स के, जो कि भारत सरकार की दृष्टि में आए हैं, क्या बार्डर के आस-पास जनता में भी कुछ लोग-

एजेंट लोग—ऐसा प्रचार कर रहे हैं, जो भारत के लिये हानिकारक है ?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: All these are taken notice of and adequate steps are taken to prevent such propaganda.

Mr. Speaker: No, no. He says propaganda is done at the border areas.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Yes; he wants to know what steps we are taking. I have pointed out that all these things are taken note of, whenever they are brought to our notice.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know this. As a matter of fact, propaganda is carried on in the border, and he wants to know whether anything, other than the bulletins being issued, is done. That is a simple question of fact.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: We have got information that such things are done in Kalimpong area.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या मंत्री महोदया उन तमाम बातों का—उस प्रचार का विवरण हमें बतलायेगी, जो बार्डर एरियाज पर और दूसरी जगह पर हो रहा है, जो भारत के लिये हानिकारक है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने कहा है ।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : मैं विवरण चाहता हूँ—बाईं बाउंडरिटेज ।

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The hon. Member referred to oral propaganda by the Chinese in certain places. This information comes to us orally through other people. Government takes notice of them but Government cannot actually say who has done what. For instance, we get reports that a particular local leader has made a speech in which propaganda was made against the Government of India or the Government of India's policies. Actually, unless it is printed or distributed we do not know the source of it.

Mr. Speaker: It is rather surprising when the British were there, we were carrying on propaganda against the British Government, and almost every speech that was made in any nook and corner of the country in any village was being reported to the Centre

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: These are not places where you have got any press agency and from where we can get any news directly

Mr. Speaker: This is an important matter. The hon. Minister will realise how many Members are interested in this. So many Members have tabled this question. This matter of Kalimpong has been there for a long time. Hon. Members want to know what further steps are taken to see what kind of propaganda is being carried on. Is the hon. Minister to wait until hon. Members give news regarding this matter?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: No, Sir. I have pointed out that propaganda is done and bulletins are distributed through the Chinese trade agency in Kalimpong. Hon. Members are referring to various places indefinitely on the border without specifying which place or through what agency such things are done. In the circumstances, it is not possible for Government to give a detailed answer.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: A perusal of the notes exchanged between the two Governments indicates that the Government of China have not accepted the suggestion made by the Government of India in regard to the propaganda activities of the Chinese Embassy as well as other agencies. On top of that, even today, something has been published in our newspapers for instance, in *The Statesman*, etc. Therefore, I want to know what additional measures are contemplated to be taken by the Government in this regard so that the anti-Government and anti-Nehru activities are not indulged in by the Chinese Embassy and other agencies within India.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): When such things come to the notice of the Government, the first step, obviously, is to draw the attention of the Embassy of the foreign power concerned and say that this is objectionable and this should not be done. Other steps may follow, normally that brings some results. Otherwise may be such papers are not allowed to be circulated or they are confiscated such other steps may be taken. It is hardly right for me to detail the steps which one can or does take in such matters.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: The Deputy Minister said that it was not possible to know all the details.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I did not say 'it is not possible'. I said unless the Member specifies the area I will not be able to give an answer. By simply saying that in border areas oral propaganda is carried on against the Government of India, it is not possible for the Government of India to know which area it is, unless they specify the area.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Infiltration has taken place in the Ladakh area and the Longju area and propaganda is being carried on virulently. I want to know whether besides bulletins, there is any other kind of propaganda going on, what steps Government have taken to prevent it and if any persons are being apprehended in this connection?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member is referring to what he calls oral propaganda. Documents are fairly easy to deal with. An oral propaganda is obviously more difficult to deal with. An oral propaganda may be undesirable, objectionable and yet within the law. What I mean is, a person may say something against which we can take some steps if he is a foreigner, if he is an Indian national, we may proceed with him in a different way. It is difficult to catch, because nobody says it in one's

presence. I presume the hon. Member is referring to whispering propaganda. If one can get hold of him and take steps, it is all right.

Shrimati Benuka Ray: My question was a little different. Is the Central Government or the Home Ministry not informed through the State Governments about oral propaganda, apart from written propaganda that is going on in some of the border areas in Kalimpong, Sikkim, etc.?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Previously on several occasions, I have myself referred to this matter, more especially the Kalimpong area, which I described at one time as a nest of spies. We have tried to deal with it and we propose to deal with it more stringently in future.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: Since the Chinese Government, as is evident from its reply of 30th October to the Prime Minister's letter of 24th September, is not prepared to accept that the material circulated by the Chinese Embassy is anti-Indian, what prevents the Government from banning circulation of all material published by the Chinese Embassy in India?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: If we consider banning or confiscating any document, it must be because we object to that document. I do not quite understand how we can ban things which otherwise by themselves are not objectionable.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: You have put certain restrictions and limits, as is mentioned in the letter. The Chinese Government is not prepared to accept that. Keeping that in view, is it not necessary to ban it since they will be going on circulating such material whenever occasion arises?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not quite know what the hon. Member means when he says that the Chinese Government is not prepared to do this or that. They may argue something in defence of what they have done. But in regard to circulation of papers, etc. it is for the Government of India

to decide and not for the Chinese Government, so far as they are concerned in India.

Shri Mohammad Inam: Have the Government ascertained how many Chinese nationals and Chinese agents have been living in India, especially in Kalimpong, Bhutan and Sikkim and what action has been taken to prevent subversive activities?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: An agent, in the very nature of things, is not a public person. He is a very very private person, indeed a secret person. So, to have a census of agents is a slight contradiction in terms. Of course, one has knowledge of people that are suspects. If we have that knowledge, it is not the kind of knowledge which is normally stated in public, because one cannot take any action then. As for the total Chinese population, I think the Home Minister gave some information yesterday.

Shri Tyagi: Has it come to the notice of Government that recently some Chinese traders and laundrymen, etc. have opened shops in many places in the border area as well as in Calcutta on a large scale for the purpose of carrying on this insidious propaganda?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: To some extent, this matter has come to our notice and we are carrying on specific enquiries about it. I am talking of border areas. In a city like Calcutta, there is a fairly large Chinese population living there for a long time past previously engaged chiefly as shoemakers and laundrymen. These are the two specific occupations of the Chinese all over the world, apart from China.

Shri Tyagi: Is there any reciprocity with regard to liberties granted to our tradesmen and businessmen in China and to the Chinese businessmen here? Are our tradesmen in China enjoying equal liberties or are the liberties restricted?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Obviously, conditions in China are completely different. It is not a question of

Indians enjoying that liberty in China; even the Chinese do not enjoy that liberty in China.

Laos

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- *124. { Shri A. M. Tariq:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Pandit D. N. Tiwary:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shrimati Benu Chakravarty:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether any, and if so what, progress has been made in the direction of re-activation of International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos;

(b) whether there have been any negotiations between the Co-Chairmen of the Geneva Conference in this regard; and

(c) if so, with what results?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) There has been no progress towards re-convening the International Commission for Supervision and Control, Laos.

(b) There were exchanges of views between the two Co-Chairmen of the Geneva Conference on the situation in Laos.

(c) The Co-Chairmen could not come to any agreement on measures to deal with the situation. In September 1959, the Government of Laos referred the matter to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and it is now before the Security Council.

Shri A. M. Tariq: May I know if Government is aware of the fact that the Soviet Government proposed that this matter should be discussed among the Co-Chairmen? Later on there

was a proposal from U.K. What was the reaction of our Government to that proposal of U.K.?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I do not know to which proposal of U.K. the hon. Member is referring. But the two Co-Chairmen have been in contact with each other by correspondence chiefly and that is continuing.

Shri D. C. Sharma: In view of the sending of the fact-finding mission, the recent visit of the Secretary General and the appointment of economic adviser to Laos, does it mean that the International Commission for Supervision and Control has been suspended?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Apart from the array of facts which the hon. Member has referred to, the International Commission was suspended even previously and it was laid down that if necessity arose, it could meet. But as a matter of fact, it has not met, because of the strong opposition of the Government of Laos to its meeting. It seems to me rather doubtful that it would meet in view of this opposition, because the Commission cannot meet if the Government is not agreeable to its meeting.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether it is a fact that tension is increasing in that country and if so, what steps Government propose to take to lessen that tension?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Tension there has been at a high level for some years. It may slightly increase or decrease; it has been at a high level and all these things that have happened recently indicate that tension. The Government of India cannot do anything at all about it. It is obvious that as members of the International Commission, we could have functioned if the Commission functioned. Since the Commission does not meet, we cannot function. All we can do is to draw the attention of the two Co-Chairmen to such information as comes into our possession and to suggest that they might take adequate steps.