

ness allowance, and as that was not covered by the Tata-John Agreement, was this not a perfectly legal strike?

Shri Nanda: In the first place, this is a matter between the union and the management. The union has to take into consideration what kind of demands to pursue. Then there is the State. Irrespective of the union, the State can intervene when there is a question which calls for such intervention.

Shri S. A. Dange: The memorandum of demands was presented by me along with the leaders of the union to both the Prime Minister and the Labour Minister. I would like to know whether this memorandum of demands was sent to the company by the Labour Ministry, whether any reply was received, and whether this reply was sent to me or to the union?

Shri Nanda: I may mention the fact that I asked Mr. Dange to come and meet me, and he did meet me, and I explained to him all that had happened before that in respect of those demands.

Shri Nagi Reddy: The Leader of the Opposition should be given the reply.

Mr. Speaker: He will be able to take care of himself.

Shri Prabhat Kar: In view of the threatening strike in such a major industry as steel, and in view of the fact that it was brought to the notice of the Central Labour Minister that the State Government was not intervening in spite of repeated representations made by the union, may I know whether the Central Government thought it necessary to ask the State Government to intervene immediately?

Shri Nanda: Really, my answers have covered this.

Shri Tyagi: Were any incidents of violence on behalf of the workers reported to the Government, and is it a fact that armed guard had to be provided to the managing officers of the factory to protect their families?

Shri Nanda: These are matters concerning the law and order situation in a part of that State, and the necessary steps were taken from time to time to protect life and property in that area.

Mr. Speaker: I shall proceed to the next question.

श्री विमूक्ति निम्ब : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सही है कि जमशेदपुर की जो हड़ताल हुई उसमें किसी पोलिटिकल पार्टी का हाथ था, क्योंकि जब यह हड़ताल बन्द होने जा रही थी तो एक पोलिटिकल पार्टी ने उकसा कर हड़ताल करायी ?

Shri Nanda: It is a matter for inference. The facts are there.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: One more question, Sir. This is a very important question.

Mr. Speaker: All questions are important which come up before the House. I do not admit any unimportant question at all.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Four hundred men have been discharged. I wanted to know what has happened to them.

Mr. Speaker: No, I am not going to allow.

International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos

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Shri Kediyan:
Shri Kumaran:
 *11. { **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
Shri Shivananjappa:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any proposal before the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos that the Commission should be dissolved after general elections in Laos are over;

(b) if so, whether the Commission has held any formal discussion over the matter; and

(c) the attitude of the Government of India towards this proposal?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) Yes

(b) Yes

(c) The attitude of the Government of India has always been that, under the Geneva Agreement, the Laos Commission could not be finally dissolved independently of the progress of political settlement in the other two states of Indo-China, particularly Viet Nam, without adversely affecting the peace in the whole of Indo-China.

The motion for dissolution of the Commission was rejected with the Indian and Polish Delegations voting against it. Later, however, the Indian Delegation agreed to a proposal that the Laos Commission should be adjourned sine die and may be reconvened in accordance with normal procedure. The Commission has accordingly adjourned with effect from the 19th of July, 1958.

Shri Kadiyan: May I know whether the matter was referred to the Foreign Ministers of Britain and the Soviet Union, who were the co-chairmen of the Geneva Conference, and if so, what is their reaction?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The matter was referred to them and the chairmen took the view that further activities of the commission must continue though it seemed reasonable to reduce its activities.

Shri Kadiyan: May I know whether it is a fact that the Indian delegation has already left Laos and the secretariat of the commission has closed down?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Yes, Sir. It is a fact.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: May I know whether the co-chairmen of the Geneva Conference, the Foreign Minister of the U.K. and the Foreign

Minister of Soviet Russia, have considered the winding up of this commission?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Yes, Sir. The matter was referred to them, and they gave their reactions, which differed from each other somewhat. Broadly, the question in Laos has been that most of the actual activities of that commission were in a sense over, but that commission could not be isolated from the whole of the Indo-China position, and from the Geneva Agreement point of view, our position, that is India's position, therefore, was that some kind of a continuing factor should remain, although there was not much work for it. At first we suggested that it should be reduced in number very considerably, it should nominally exist. Ultimately the agreement arrived at and passed by the commission was that the commission should adjourn indefinitely, but may be reconvened. It was further proposed that while the commission was not doing any work it could close its office in Laos, formally, our representative in Viet Nam should also represent us in Laos so that if necessity arose, he could function or we could send somebody else. Therefore, while it has no particular work and has closed its offices it can be summoned at any time, and potentially it is in existence.

Naga Peoples Convention at Ungma

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*12. { Shrimati Mafida Ahmed
Shri Hem Barua }

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware of the Naga Peoples Convention held at "Ungma" in the 3rd week of May, 1958, and

(b) whether Government have any information regarding the topics of discussion and resolutions adopted at the said convention?