

account of employers' and employees' contribution are Rs. 10.40 lakhs.

(iii) The Interest is to be worked out in respect of each employee on the basis of rates prevalent from time to time.

12.03 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED AGREEMENT BETWEEN NEPAL AND CHINA PERMITTING CHINA TO SURVEY TERAI BORDER

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Pupri): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of External Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"Reported agreement between Nepal and China wherein China has been permitted by Nepal to survey Terai border near Indian border."

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH): Government are aware that letters were exchanged on July 16th between the Chinese Ambassador in Kathmandu and the Finance Secretary, His Majesty's Government of Nepal, by which the Chinese Government are to conduct a survey in the Butwal area of the Nepal Terai in order to ascertain whether cotton cultivation is possible. This agreement formalises the earlier position which we were aware of, viz. that a few Chinese experts were in the area to look into the question of cotton cultivation. What is proposed to be undertaken is a feasibility report on the possibility of growing cotton.

The agreement provides for Chinese technicians to conduct investigations in the area, with the cooperation of the Nepalese Government.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Sir, it is rather unfortunate that in spite of our best efforts, our relations with Nepal have not been good. In view of our close historical, cultural, political and economic ties with that country the existing unhappy relationship is all the more distressing. Since the achievement of our national independence, we have tried our best to develop and strengthen the

bond of friendship with Nepal. In spite of our meagre resources, we are the largest aid-giving country to Nepal. In matters of trade also, we have gone out of our way to give Nepal special consideration to the extent of giving them at concessional rates imported goods for which we have to pay in foreign exchange. In the matter of trade, we have been so liberal that we have connived at the large-scale smuggling which goes on all along the border. But unfortunately, the Government of Nepal has failed to reciprocate our friendly gestures. Otherwise, how can we explain the negative reaction of the Government of Nepal during the Chinese or Pakistani aggression against our country? Even in matters of economic development which are of mutual benefit, the Government of Nepal has adopted a very obstructionist policy. Otherwise, it would have been possible for us to complete the Western Kosi canal project long back. Also, in view of the growing ties and the developing axis between Peking, Washington and Islamabad, we are rather apprehensive of the policies of the Government of Nepal, especially when they have in the past insisted on transit facilities through the Radhikapur checkpost.

I want to know whether the Government are aware of the fact that the entire Terai area is not suitable for cotton cultivation, as it is largely jute and paddy growing land and whether any approach had been made by the Government of Nepal to the Government of India for conducting a similar survey in this area? Is the Government aware of the existence of a powerful anti-India lobby in the ruling clique of Nepal, which draws its inspiration from His Majesty the King himself? Does the Government see any possibility of any link-up between this agreement and the growing ties between Islamabad, Peking and Washington? Will the Government consider the present agreement as a hostile act directed against the interests and security of our country? Is it not a fact that the anti-Indian stance in the Nepalese foreign policy has become more pronounced since the royal take-over in 1960? Will the Government consider the possibility of helping the democratic elements in Nepal for the restoration of the representative system of government there? What steps do Government propose to take to ensure the safety of the life and property of the people who are

inhabiting the Indo-Nepalese border on our side?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: The first question is whether we are aware if Terai area is not suitable for cotton cultivation. According to our information, cotton has not so far been grown in that region. The object of this agreement between the Nepal Government and the Government of China is to investigate the feasibility of growing cotton in that region. That is the agreement which has been entered into. The Nepalese Government have not approached us to conduct any such survey.

Then he asked about anti-India lobby. I am not aware of any lobby as such, but it is true that there are certain elements, political elements and certain leaders, who generally make speeches which are not friendly to India. In fact, some of them are highly critical of India.

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra): That is known as a lobby.

SHRISWARAN SINGH: I do not know, you are familiar with lobbies.

At the same time, I would not like to agree with the hon. Member that any such critical attitude on the part of certain leaders is at the inspiration of the ruler, His Majesty, the King of Nepal. I would appeal to the hon. Member not to say things which might be critical of the head of a friendly neighbouring country. The signing of an agreement to find out the feasibility of growing cotton in Terai area cannot, by any stretch of imagination, be termed as an act hostile to India, and I do not see why the hon. Member should have this feeling that this is directed against India. We should not take that view at all.

Then he says that we should help democratic elements inside Nepal. I think we should be very careful when we talk of taking attitudes with regard to matters which, on the face of it, are internal affairs of Nepal. I would also like to add that this type of attitude creates misunderstanding which should be avoided when we are dealing with our neighbours, particularly smaller countries who are our neighbours. This attitude does not help at all. It unnecessarily creates sus-

picion. I would appeal to hon. Members not to adopt that line.

MR. SPEAKER: It was not connected with the Calling Attention Motion either.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Then he need not reply to it.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: About the safety of the people on that border, I need hardly re-assure hon. Members that our border is safe and there is no risk of any type on that border.

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडे (मन्दासौर) :
अध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने अपने वक्तव्य में जो कहा है उसके सम्बन्ध में मेरा निवेदन है कि यह प्रश्न केवल नेपाल और चीन की काटन सर्वे की संधि तक ही सीमित नहीं समझना चाहिए बल्कि हमारी सीमा पर उसका क्या असर पड़ सकता है, उस दृष्टि से देखना है। यह सही है कि नेपाल हमारा मित्र देश है, उसके साथ हमारे बहुत अच्छे सम्बन्ध हैं और नेपाल से हमें किसी प्रकार का भय नहीं है लेकिन चीन का जो रवैया हमारे साथ रहा है, पिछले वर्षों में चीन ने जो कुछ हमारे साथ किया है, जिस प्रकार से पाकिस्तान के साथ मिलकर उसका हमारे प्रति आक्रामक रवैया रहा है उस दृष्टि से चीन के साथ नेपाल की जो संधि हुई है, तराई क्षेत्र में नेपाल के साथ मिलकर वह जो कुछ करना चाहता है—इस सन्दर्भ में मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ क्या हमारी सरकार ने नेपाल सरकार से इस बात की कोई गारंटी ली है, इस बात का आदवासन प्राप्त कर लिया है कि चीन के साथ नेपाल का इस प्रकार से समझौता होने पर और तराई क्षेत्र में उन लोगों के जाने पर हमारी सीमा के लिए किसी प्रकार का कोई खतरा पैदा नहीं होगा ? दूसरे—चीन हमारे क्षेत्र के अन्दर किसी प्रकार से भी कोई गड़बड़ नहीं कर पायेगा—इस बारे में क्या नेपाल सरकार से आपने कोई ठोस विश्वास या आश्वासन प्राप्त कर लिया है अथवा आपने नेपाल सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित किया है ?

[श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडे]

अध्यक्ष महोदय, पिछले दिनों स्वर्गीय लाल बहादुर शास्त्रीजी के समय नेपाल के साथ हमारे बहुत अच्छे सम्बन्ध बने लेकिन बीच में मैं समझता हूँ कुछ गतिरोध उत्पन्न हुआ। नेपाल सरकार से व्यापारिक सम्बन्धों में कुछ गतिरोध है और उसमें प्रगति नहीं हो पा रही है। नेपाल एक विकासशील देश है और हम उसकी सहायता कर रहे हैं। हम इस बात का प्रदर्शन नहीं करना चाहते कि हम उनके साथ कोई उपकार कर रहे हैं बल्कि जो हमारा कर्तव्य है उसी को हम निभा रहे हैं। बहुत सारे प्रोजेक्ट्स में और स्कीमों में हम नेपाल की सहायता कर रहे हैं तथा दूसरे देश भी उनकी सहायता के लिए आगे बढ़ रहे हैं। लेकिन इस सारी स्थिति में हमको इस बात की जरूरत जानकारी होनी चाहिए, हमें उनसे इस बात का आश्वासन प्राप्त करना चाहिए और सरकार को भी इस बात का ध्यान रखना चाहिए कि उसमें हमारे हित सुरक्षित है या नहीं? कोई ऐसी कार्यवाही तो नहीं की जा रही है जिसमें हमारे हित सुरक्षित न रहें? इसलिए जैसा मैंने प्रारम्भ में कहा उसी प्रश्न के साथ यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या नेपाल सरकार ने भारत सरकार से इस प्रकार के सर्वे की मंजूरी की थी और उसका क्या उत्तर दिया गया? जैसा कि मंत्री महोदय ने अभी कहा है कि वह कपास उत्पादन का क्षेत्र नहीं है, वहाँ पर कपास पैदा नहीं होती है और वह सारा क्षेत्र हमारी सीमा से लपा हुआ है इसलिए शाका पैदा होना स्वाभाविक है। पिछले दिनों यहाँ पर ध्यानकर्षण प्रस्ताव आया था कि जो बैलून आया वह किस रास्ते से आया, उसका क्या मार्ग हो सकता है? जाइवान से चीन के गड़बड़ करने के कई मार्ग हो सकते हैं। इसी से बहुत-सी शाकायें पैदा हुई हैं। चीन का जो घुस-पैठ करने का रवैया है उससे संभव है कि वह गड़बड़ी पैदा करने का प्रयत्न करे। पाकिस्तान षडयन्त्र कर ही रहा है। तो इस त्रुटिके बंधे इस प्रश्न को देखा जाना चाहिए। इस ध्यानकर्षण

प्रस्ताव में जो निहित भावना है वह यही है कि किसी प्रकार से हमारे देश की सीमा सुरक्षित तो प्रभावित नहीं होती है? यदि होती है तो क्या उसके लिए आपकी तरफ से पूरी तैयारी है? साथ ही क्या आपने नेपाल सरकार से इस प्रकार का कोई आश्वासन और विश्वास प्राप्त कर लिया है?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: Sir, the specific question that he asked was as to whether the Government of Nepal approached us to undertake a feasibility report of that type. They have not made any approach to us to conduct a survey with the view of preparing any feasibility report of that nature. The rest of his comments relate to our adopting every caution to ensure the safety of our border. On that I have already said we are fully aware of this and we are taking and have always taken adequate steps to ensure the security of our border.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the pact is not so innocent as has been stated by the Minister. The Minister has already said that cotton is not grown in that area. Now, they are doing a survey to find out the feasibility of growing cotton but it is a well-designed motive and threat to the Indian security by China. We have suspected danger because in that area where we all know, naxalite activity is there and reports have been received that some of the naxalities have gone to Nepal and also the Chinese Government is instigating them. They are making a survey in an area where there is no cotton grown. How can we ensure it is not meant to give an instigation to the naxalities. I want to know from the Government whether they will tighten the security measures and see there should not be any contact between naxalities and China.

I for one would want a dialogue with China. We must start dialogue with China but the Chinese attitude is somewhat different. China claims to be the champion of the so-called communist movement. Taking an anti-Indian attitude they are now pleasing

Nixon and want to isolate the Soviet Union. They are pleasing Nixon and creating a hostility towards Soviet Union and India. Also they are keeping relation and agreement with Pakistan Government. Sir, all this is motivated by China to block India's progress. I want to know from the Government whether they will take up this matter with the Nepal Government so that our security is not endangered.

Sir, I do not want to criticise a friendly country. The agreement to construct the national highway between China and Nepal and some other agreements are to please the Chinese Government at the expense of our national security.

The External Affairs Minister has said in this House that more than Rs. 83 crores have been given as help to Nepal. So, all kinds of help is always extended and friendly relations are sought to be established with Nepal. Yet, some politicians are creating anti-Indian feelings in Nepal through their speeches. What is our Mission doing there? Are they doing smuggling? I do not know. Why can they not cultivate friendly relations among the people? It is not only the Government but the people of Nepal also who should be friendly to us, whether some politicians are or are not. Therefore, the ministry and the Mission in Kathmandu should see to it that the people of Nepal are friendly to us. That kind of a situation should be created. I do not know what you are doing in that direction.

Then, he has said that there was no proposal from Nepal Government for a survey to be done by India. So, I do not want to ask any question about that. But I would like to know whether hereafter friendly relations will be cultivated with the Nepal Government and the people of Nepal and Government will take care of the threat presented to our security.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: We must realise our limitation. I do not see how we can prevent the Chinese technicians that might be in Nepalese territory from coming into contact with any particular class of people there. It is essentially a matter for the Government of Nepal and we should not presume that the Government of Nepal are unaware of their own interest.

The second point that he has raised is about the security of our country. About that I have already said that we are constantly in touch with Nepal and I do not see any ground to suspect that Nepal will do anything which will in any way impair our security.

The third question is that there are several anti-Indian speeches made by several politicians in Nepal and what our embassy is doing. We continue to make efforts, both at the official and at the non-official level; notwithstanding these anti-Indian speeches, the attitude of the Government of Nepal continues to be friendly to us.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): I and my group believe in eternal friendship between India and Nepal. So, I do not want to put any question which is embarrassing either to the hon. Minister or to the Nepal Government. After the statement given by the hon. Minister, the fear lurking in our minds has been allayed to the extent that it is only limited to the feasibility report on the possibility of growing cotton. So, in response to his appeal I will not put a question. Let the cotton grow; then, I will.

MR. SPEAKER: That is all right. He does not want to put any question.

12.23 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

REVIEWS AND REPORTS OF HINDUSTAN PHOTO FILMS MANUFACTURING CO. LTD. AND NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA): Sir, on behalf of Shri Moinul Haque Choudhury, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

- (1) (i) Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Limited, for the year 1969-70.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Com-