

Mr. Speaker: If other information does not reach him, copy of the proceedings need not go to him. Otherwise, so far as the other Members are concerned, it is agreed that leave of absence is granted.

12.30 hrs.

STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER

DISCUSSIONS WITH FOREIGN DIGNATARIES

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Mr. Speaker, Sir, several distinguished representatives of friendly countries have visited Delhi during the last ten days. We have taken advantage of these visits to exchange views with them on matters of mutual interest. Mr. Ali Sabry, President of the Executive Council of the UAR, arrived in Delhi on his way back to Cairo from Peking on the night of the 26th April and left on the night of 27/28th April. Admiral of the Fleet, the Earl Mountbatten of Burma, Chief of the U.K. Defence Staff, arrived in Delhi on 30th April and left on 3rd May. Mr. Duncan Sandys, the U.K. Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, was here from 1st May to 4th May. Mr. Dean Rusk, the United States Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, was in Delhi with Mr. Phillips Talbot and Mr. William Bundy from 2nd to 4th May. Apart from the visits of these distinguished representatives of friendly countries, it was during the last ten days of April that the fifth round of Indo-Pakistan Ministerial level talks on Kashmir and other related matters took place. It was also during this period that our Minister for Economic and Defence Co-ordination, Shri T. T. Krishnamachari, paid a goodwill visit to New Zealand and Australia. It is natural, therefore, that the Members of the House should want to know something about the talks and discussions that we had with various distinguished foreign representatives during this period. A large number of Calling Attention Notices have been received in this connection, and I am taking this

opportunity of acquainting the House broadly with the nature of the talks we had. I cannot give details as these informal and friendly talks with representatives of foreign governments have, in accordance with normal conventions, to be treated as confidential.

Indo-Pakistan talks

As the House is aware, the Government of India have always been anxious to reach a settlement on our various differences with Pakistan including those over Kashmir and to do everything possible to realise our main objective of having friendly and co-operative relations with Pakistan so that India and Pakistan can live side by side in peace and friendship. My colleague, Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister for Railways, who has been leading the Indian delegation, has pursued this objective with admirable patience in the Indo-Pakistan Minister-level talks that have been going on during the last few months. Despite difficulties caused by provocative statements on the Pakistan side, he has always conducted the talks with perfect calm and coolness and has not allowed occasional difficulties and setbacks to interfere with our objective to do everything possible to promote friendly and co-operative relations with Pakistan. That the five rounds of talks should not have yielded any useful results and that our differences with Pakistan still remain is a matter of serious regret to us. We are however, determined, despite setbacks and difficulties, to continue our efforts to resolve our differences and to promote friendly and cooperative relations with Pakistan. I would, in this connection, like to draw the attention of the House to our repeated offers of a "No War" declaration to Pakistan, in pursuance of our sincere desire to have peaceful and friendly relations with them. These have so far met with no response. In my letter to President Ayub Khan last October, I had pointed out that we

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have to build up adequate defence potential to meet the Chinese threat but this new defence potential cannot and will not be used for any purpose other than effective resistance against Chinese aggression. I had also assured him in this letter that the idea of any conflict with Pakistan is one which is repugnant to us, and we on our part will never initiate it and expressed my conviction that the future of India and Pakistan lies in their friendship and co-operation for the benefit of both. I am sure that the House fully supports me in my reiteration of these sentiments.

India-China Conflict

Mr. Ali Sabry, President of the Executive Council of the UAR gave us, during his visit, his assessment of Chinese thinking based on his discussions with the Chinese leaders in Peking. We understood from our talks with Mr. Ali Sabry that while the Government of China were not prepared to drop their reservations on the Colombo proposals, and therefore not willing to implement the Colombo proposals, they were prepared to enter into discussions on the major issue of the differences regarding the boundary on the basis of their acceptance of the Colombo proposals in principle. In effect, this means that the Government of China are determined to maintain the unilateral situation on the border that they had created by their aggression and massive attacks and subsequent cease-fire and partial withdrawals from Indian territory and are not prepared to agree to the restoration of the presence of both sides in the demilitarised zone in the western sector as recommended by the Colombo proposals. All that the Government of China seem to be interested in is a negotiated settlement on our border differences on the basis of the altered situation on the border created by them as a result of their aggression.

It is obvious that we cannot enter into any talks and discussions with

the Government of China on the major issue of our differences regarding the border till they accept the Colombo proposals without reservations and the recommendations made in the proposals are implemented on the grounds. We had made constructive suggestions in this regard in a note we sent to the Government of China on 3rd April. I am placing a copy of the note on the Table of the House. There has been no specific reply to this note so far.

The assessment of Chinese thinking given by Mr. Ali Sabry is confirmed by a letter dated 20th April that Prime Minister Chou En-lai sent to me. I have replied to this letter on the 1st May. I am placing copies of these letters on the Table of the House.

In view of the experience we had last October and November, the continued intransigence of China on the Colombo proposals and the constant venom of anti-Indian propaganda that is being poured out every day—I am placing copies of a Chinese note dated 27th April and our reply to illustrate this—we have to be prepared for any eventuality. The strengthening of our defence potential against a renewed threat by China is therefore, a matter of vital importance. And this has to be followed up with determination and single-mindedness of purpose.

In this connection, I would like to mention Shri T. T. Krishnamachari's recent visit to New Zealand and Australia. During these visits Shri Krishnamachari had talks with the Prime Ministers of these two countries and also some of their colleagues. These informal and friendly talks have, I am sure, brought India and New Zealand and Australia closer together in their approach to problems of common interests. During the visit to Australia, Shri T. T. Krishnamachari was accompanied by our Cabinet Secretary and oppor-

tunity was taken to discuss questions of production of defence equipment and allied matters. It is intended to follow up the results of this visit by a further visit of an Indian technical team connected with production of defence equipment to Australia and, perhaps at a later stage, by the visit of an Australian technical team to India to get Australian technical co-operation in connection with programmes of production of defence equipment.

Visit of Mr. Duncan Sandys and Lord Mountbatten

Lord Mountbatten had planned to visit us in October 1962. This visit was postponed because of the crisis in the Caribbean. We were glad to see an old friend and exchanged views with him on our mutual problems. As Chief of the UK Defence Staff, Lord Mountbatten has been in close touch with the problems of our defence requirements both in the way of equipment and machinery for defence production to build up our defence potential to meet the Chinese threat. He discussed these matters generally with me, with the Defence Minister and with various Service Chiefs. The Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, Mr. Duncan Sandys, discussed with us the general question of our defence requirements, the progress of the Indo-Pakistan Minister-level talks on Kashmir and other related matters and Indo-Pakistan relations generally. During the talks he made it clear that settlement on Kashmir is not a condition to the military aid from the United Kingdom to meet the Chinese threat to India. He added, however, that a settlement of the differences between India and Pakistan will greatly ease the U.K.'s task and hoped that progress will be made in the talks between India and Pakistan to settle their differences.

I would like to take this opportunity of saying a few words on reports about the grounding of I.A.F. planes for lack of supply of British spare parts, that have appeared in

the press as a result of a question asked in the British Parliament on this subject. While some aircraft with flying units have temporarily become unserviceable, it is expected that this temporary difficulty will be soon overcome in view of the great interest taken in this matter by all concerned. Our requirements of spare parts for I.A.F. planes of British manufacture are being dealt with on the basis of priority. The main difficulty has been the availability of supply, with the Royal Air Force and with the British manufacturers, as some of the types of British aircraft in service with the I.A.F. have gone out of production.

Dean Rusk's visit

In our talks with Secretary of State Dean Rusk, which was in the nature of a tour d'horizon of the problems in which both India and the United States are interested, Secretary of State, Dean Rusk, assured us of United States sympathy and support to India against the Chinese threat. He made it clear that there can be no question of compromising with the Chinese threat and that the question of U.S. aid to India was not lined with the settlement of Indo-Pakistan differences including those over Kashmir. He added that, so far as the U.S.A. were concerned, their view was that Chinese aggression and expansionist policies posed a threat to the entire sub-continent and, in that context, they were interested in promotion of friendly relations between India and Pakistan. I told Secretary of State Dean Rusk that geography, our common bonds of history and cultural and other ties made it inevitable that India and Pakistan should have co-operative and friendly relations. In resolving our current differences including those on Kashmir, however, care has to be taken to see that both the methods and the lines of settlement of differences that may be followed should secure the main objective not only of

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resolving the differences but of promoting friendly and co-operative relations between India and Pakistan. It is of the utmost importance, therefore, that no inadvertent step should be taken which may, instead of making for improvement, worsen the climate between the two countries. It is in this context and in the context of the long term nature of the Chinese threat that we welcome the interest of U.S.A. and other friendly countries who are helping us in meeting the problems we are facing. *Technical Team's visit to U.S.A., Canada and U.K.*

An official team of technical experts has been visiting the U.S.A., Canada and the U.K. during the last three weeks in connection with our defence requirements. The team returned to Delhi on the morning of the 5th. Secretary of State Dean Rusk told us during his talks that the U.S. authorities would welcome the visit of Shri T. T. Krishnamachari for having further talks and discussion, in continuation of these exchanges between official experts. I had a recent message from Prime Minister Macmillan in which he mentioned, amongst other matters, that an early visit by Shri T. T. Krishnamachari to the U.K. will be useful. Shri T. T. Krishnamachari will be leaving for his visits to the U.S.A. Canada and the U.K. in a few days.

I have attempted in this statement to give a broad indication of the developments during the last few weeks and of the discussions we had with distinguished representatives of friendly countries who visited Delhi recently. While we must take and we are taking with such assistance as we can get from friendly countries, necessary measures to safeguard our security and territorial integrity against the Chinese aggressive threat, our dedication to peace and peaceful ways and our desire to have friendly and co-operative relations with all countries, more particularly with our immediate neighbours, continue to be

the guiding principles of India's foreign policy. We want to develop in freedom and independence according to our own genius. We will continue to take independent decisions, on the merits of each case, on all international issues that arise without prejudices or predilections of any kind. We do not want to interfere in the affairs of any other country nor do we covet an inch of any country's territory. At the same time, we will not permit any interference in our affairs or any aggression on our territory.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: On a point of clarification..... (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: I am inclined to think that there ought not to be any questions put at this stage. I would appeal to hon. Members.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: This is the last day of the session. He has made a long statement. We would not put many questions.

Mr. Speaker: That is so, and I do realise that this is the last day of this session, but the subject covers many items; this statement contains so many subjects that if we open out discussions on each point, certainly, it would take a long time.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: We shall put only a few questions to seek information.

Mr. Speaker: How would it be possible for me to allow opportunity only to one hon. Member and not to others?

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: We have given notices of short notice questions and calling-attention-notices on these matters.

Mr. Speaker: I would again appeal to him to kindly resist the temptation.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: It is no temptation, but it is only the discharge of our duties. I am sorry. Sir, that you used the word 'temptation'. You cannot call it temptation.

Shri Nath Pai: It is not a temptation. We are here to discharge our duty.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I am very sorry that you put it in that light.

Shri Nath Pai: You may disallow the question, but to call it temptation would not be proper.

Mr. Speaker: In the discharge of duties also there is a temptation that one should discharge them.

Shri Nath Pai: It is not temptation, but it is loyalty to one's duty. (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: All right. I shall allow one question to each party and not to each Member.

Shri Nath Pai: There is no question of party, here, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I shall allow one question to each party. Anyone from each party can put it.

Shri Nath Pai: There is no question of party here, Sir. We want information on certain points. Otherwise, how shall we answer the people when we go back to our constituencies?

Mr. Speaker: I shall allow one question to each party, whoever from the party might put it.

Shri Hem Barua: The question of party does not come in here.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: On a point of clarification. With regard to the Indo-Pakistan talks, will the Prime Minister be so good as to tell the House when and where the next round of talks between the representatives of India and Pakistan will take place, and whether during the talks since December last between Shri Swaran Singh and Mr. Bhutto, any proposal was mooted for a meeting between the Prime Minister and the Pakistani President in the near future, and if so, with what tangible effect?

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Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: As at present arranged, the next round of the Indo-Pakistan talks is supposed to take place in Delhi, I believe, from the 15th of this month onward. Am I right?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Swaran Singh): Yes.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: As for President Ayub and myself meeting, that has been in the air for a long time. But, no specific proposal was mooted recently or during these talks. It has been there. I have always expressed my readiness to meet him.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Barackpore): In view of the resolution adopted by the National Conference of Kashmir, may I know whether in the course of the talks, the Prime Minister has made it clear that that is the stand of India also regarding the partitioning of the Kashmir Valley?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The resolution of the Kashmir National Conference was not before me. As a matter of fact, I think I read it for the first time last night. However, the position was very much before me, and we have made it quite clear that any idea of partitioning Kashmir Valley would be exceedingly harmful and would not be acceptable to us.

Shri Narasimha Reddy (Rajampet): We are glad to know from the Prime Minister that the Western diplomats made it clear that the settlement of the Kashmir question was not a condition precedent for the supply of arms. But, may I know from the Prime Minister whether in his talks with the Western diplomats he got any indication from them that the present supply of arms would be considerably speeded up and enhanced if we come to a settlement with Pakistan?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have said as much as I can say in the course of my statement about that. Both eminent representatives of the USA and the UK told us specifically that the question of helping us or giving us assistance in regard to military and like equipment was not connected with Indo-Pakistan issues; at the same time, they did say that they would welcome any settlement, and it would ease their path. That is the position.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi (Jodhpur): May I know whether the Prime Minister is in a position to tell us that there is no abatement of interest in the USA and the UK in respect of their continued assistance for strengthening our defences, and if so, whether the prospect or particularly the insistence on building up our Air Force is any the brighter now than before?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The same question comes round in different language. I do not know how to explain it. I have stated all that in my statement.

Shri U. M. Trivedi (Mandsaur): I would like to know from the Prime Minister whether during our talks with Pakistan through Shri Swaran Singh, it has been brought to the notice of Pakistan that it will be in the interests of both countries if Pakistan gave up its attitude about partitioning Kashmir. (*Interruptions*).

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I should like to answer that question. Not only did he not bring it to their notice, but we are entirely opposed to the suggestion which the hon. Member has made.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Now, there should be no more questions.

Shri Nath Pal: All the questions put so far were about Pakistan. There are other matters also.

Shri Hem Barua: All the questions put so far were about Pakistan. There are other matters such as China etc.

Mr. Speaker: I had already made a request, and then conceded that I shall allow one question to each party. Now, I shall proceed with the next item.

Shri Hem Barua: May I submit one point for your consideration or ruling or guidance? In an important matter like this, all questions put were about Pakistan . . . (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: I am not allowing him any questions.

Shri Hem Barua: I shall not put any question. But I am only making a point for your consideration and guidance. All the questions put so far were about Pakistan and Kashmir and all that. There are other subjects also on which I could have put questions.

Mr. Speaker: That is right. Now, he may kindly resume his seat.

Shri Hem Barua: May I submit one thing, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Hem Barua: I have not finished yet.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta Central): Sit down.

Shri Hem Barua: Who is he to say like that? Who is he to say 'Sit down'?

Mr. Speaker: I shall manage him certainly. I shall request the hon. Member to sit down now.

Shri Hem Barua: May I submit this?

Mr. Speaker: That is all right. I have followed him. It was the option of the party to allow whoever the spokesman of the party was to put any question. (*Interruptions*).

Order, order. We cannot proceed with a regular discussion now for a long time.

Shri Hem Barua: On a point of order, Sir.....

Shri Priya Gupta (Katihar): On a point of order.....

Shri Hem Barua: I would submit one thing for your consideration. The thing is this. When I made a humble submission to you and wanted to place a certain matter before you you wanted me to sit down; and I was in the process of sitting down. But here is the Deputy Leader of the Communist Group who shouted at me 'Sit down' and all that. I submit that.....

Shri Mohammad Elias (Howrah): You cannot say like this. You shut up and sit down... (*Interruptions.*)

Mr. Speaker: Order, order, now.

Shri Mohammad Elias: I also want to rise to a point of order....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He may kindly sit down.

Shri Mohammad Elias: These three Members, the 'three musketeers' have not got any right to 'ransack' the whole House in this manner. They are a tiny group of a few Members.....

An Hon. Member: Sir he is shouting at the top of his voice and making gesticulations.

Shri Mohammad Elias: And still they want to take privilege like a bigger group in Parliament, and this cannot be tolerated by you. We should not allow it. I am standing here to give you protection. (*Interruptions.*)

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. When I am standing, the hon. Member must sit down.

I am thankful to the hon. Members who have just come out to my aid and given me protection. That is all right. But, sometimes, I do not need

it, and if they give that protection to me at that moment, that creates difficulties for me. Therefore, whenever I need it, I shall ask for that. Unless I ask for it, that protection need not be given to me.

Now that he has put that question, I would say that, of course, in the heat of the moment, certain hon. Members do behave like that. I can only appeal to everyone of them. He need not have got excited. I was myself telling Shri H. N. Mukerjee that he should not have shouted, and I was asking him not to say like that, and I was about to say that to him. So, where is the question of Shri Hem Barua having any grievance?

Shri U. M. Trivedi (Mandsaur): Without any show of animosity, what I feel is that so far as Shri H. N. Mukerjee's conduct was concerned, it was all right, and the moment you observed like that, he has not overstepped that. But, what was the occasion for my other hon. friend to lose his temper so much, especially when recently there was an occasion when a Member of my Party was named and was taken out? Why this outburst? There is absolutely no desire on his part even to tender an apology to the House for this conduct.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Of course, it was objectionable; it was not correct on his part to behave like that. But then he just passed on and said that he was giving me protection. (*Interruptions.*) Therefore, I did not mind it.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: You do not need such protection.

Mr. Speaker: I have said it was objectionable, it was not proper, it was incorrect. Now, that is all right.