

the cause of Palestine, whether the Government would consider closure of the Israel Consulate in Bombay which is a serious aberration of our policy and which is doing a lot of damaging work in Bombay and other places, and for the closure of which even a demand was made by various States here in the aide memoire and will the Government also in retaliation to the Israeli Parliament passing this Bill to have Jerusalem as their indivisible capital ask them to close the Israeli Consulate in Bombay and also issue a commemorative stamp in support of our Palestine cause?

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO:** The issue of a commemorative stamp could be considered. I shall certainly take it up with my colleague in the Communications Ministry. So far as the closure of the Israeli Consulate is concerned, that is a matter which has been noted.

**SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:** In spite of the forceful speech that the Minister made recently, Jerusalem has spurned the United Nations resolution and the Cabinet Committee on Jerusalem yesterday approved the transfer of the Agriculture and Housing Minister from their Tel Aviv offices after the Treasury withdrew its objection that it could not finance the move. Now, in view of the fact that Israel has spurned the United Nations Resolution, will the Government of India take the initiative for the expulsion of Israel from the General Assembly as was done in the case of South Africa some years ago?

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO:** This matter will have to be considered in consultation with other countries who have co-sponsored the Resolution. The resolution has been passed by a massive majority in the United Nations. This is a suggestion which we will consider along with other countries.

**Nhava-Sheva Project of Maharashtra**

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**\*780. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT:  
SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR:**

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Nhava-Sheva Project of Maharashtra has been shelved;
- (b) if so, the reasons thereof;
- (c) what are the salient points of objection to this project raised by the Bombay Environmentalists Action Committee (Save Bombay Committee); and
- (d) what steps has the Government taken to expedite an early final decision on this vital important project?

**THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT AND TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There were some objections by the environmentalists against installation of ONGC for their supply base and fabrication of Drilling Platform of Mazagon Dock, on Nhava Island.

(d) Public Investment Board has cleared the proposal for preparation of Detailed Project Report. Further action is under consideration.

**DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT:**  
[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair.]

was a press statement that in regard to the objections raised by the Bombay Environmentalists Action Committee (Save Bombay Committee), the former Prime Minister had issued instructions to stay the proposal. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the proposal has been stayed or since it has been passed on to the Shipping and Transport Ministry and also the Public

Investment Board, how long will it take for the Government to take final decision on this project?

**SHRI A. P. SHARMA:** It is not true that the action has been stayed on the complaints of these Environmentalists.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** Did you say "it is not true"?

**PROF. A. P. SHARMA:** I have said that it is not true that the action has been stayed on the complaints made by the Environmentalists. The Minister of State for Defence Production has gone there to listen to the complaints of the Environmentalists and make an enquiry about it. The report of the Minister of the State for Defence Production in this respect is before the Government and after this has been considered, the clearance given by the P.I.B. for the proposal will be considered and the preparation of the D.P.R. will also be considered.

**DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT:** We do not understand how the Minister for Defence was concerned as far as this proposal is concerned. The Minister may please throw more light on this.

As far as the capacity of the Nhava-Sheva project is concerned, the present capacity of the Bombay Port Trust is for handling 7.1 million tons only, while the projects capacity would be 13 million tons to be handled within a course of five to seven years. I would like to know whether the report is being presented now and being examined, and whether it covers the increase in the capacity of the Bombay Port Trust to be commensurate with the proposal.

**SHRI A. P. SHARMA:** In consideration of this, as my Hon. friend has stated just now, the question of setting up of a Satellite Port at Nhava Sheva has been considered.

As I have said, the whole question is under consideration and the Minister of Defence Production went to enquire into this complaint of the Environmentalists, as I have already stated, because the fabrication of the Drilling Platform of the Mazgon Dock comes under the Ministry of Defence Production.

**DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT:** That means it is stayed—that the entire proposal is stayed.

**SHRI A. P. SHARMA:** I have already stated in the main answer that action has not been stayed. The PIB has cleared the DPR Report and it is under the consideration of Government. Meanwhile, the complaint came, and the Report of the Minister of Defence Production is before us, and that is also under consideration.

**SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR :** Sir, before I put the supplementary, I would seek some guidance from you because I cannot raise a point of order in the Question Hour. I invite your kind attention to Direction 13 A which is many times disobeyed, but we cannot raise it because you say that we cannot raise a point of order now. But if there is a breach of the Direction, what should we do? The Direction is very clear that answers to questions given in the House shall be complete and, as far as possible, each part thereof shall be answered separately. And 13A (2) is more important. It says:

"If, on his attention" i.e. your kind attention "being drawn to an answer, the Speaker is satisfied that it does not fulfil this condition, he may direct the Minister to give a complete answer".

Kindly refer to part (c) of the question, asking what are the salient points of the objection of the Environmentalists' Committee. The answer is that 'there were some objections'. Are these the salient features of the

objection raised by the Environmentalists Committee? It is our stand that the elite rich of Bombay go there for a week-end and put impediments in the construction of the Nhava-Sheva Port, and therefore it is not possible for the Government to proceed. Therefore, before putting the supplementary, I would request you to direct the Hon. Minister to tell us the details of it so that I can put the supplementary—that is, what are the salient features, and not only one feature.

**SHRI A. P. SHARMA:** If my hon. friend looks carefully into the answer to the question, the complaint of the Environmentalists is mentioned there, and the complaint is about the installation of ONGC for their supply base and fabrication of a drilling platform at Mazagon Dock. This is the complaint, and this complaint was received from the Environmentalists. On the basis of that complaint, the Minister of Defence Production has gone there, has listened to their complaint, has made an enquiry and has submitted a report.

**SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR:** I very well appreciate the answer given by the Hon. Minister, and I take it that the objection is only to the installation of ONGC's drilling platform, and there is no objection to the construction of the Nhava-Sheva Port. In view of this, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister, through you, whether it is not a fact that the report of the Working Group of the Planning Commission set up in 1959, the Survey Report of the Shipping Ministry and the Report of the NTP Committee headed by Shri P. D. Pande have suggested that the construction of the Nhava-Sheva Port is extremely important in order to relieve port congestion in the country—not only in Bombay—and should not be delayed even for a moment, and that the work should be taken up on priority basis. I would also like to know whether it has suggested that a

separate Nhava-Sheva Port Development Authority, aided by an Administrator-cum-Engineer, with proper powers and responsibilities, should be formed. What is the reaction of the Government with reference to the suggestions of these 4 committees appointed by it?

**SHRI A. P. SHARMA:** I have even gone ahead of what my hon. friend had suggested. I have said that after considering all these things we are now in a Position to commission a detailed project report. Therefore, we are much ahead of what the Member is asking for. The question of commissioning the detailed project report has been kept pending in view of the report submitted by the Minister of Defence Production, and as soon as that report is considered, we will proceed towards action in this direction.

**SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:** The 'Save Bombay' agitation is just to save some of the big people who want to acquire that land for construction of their buildings. Is the Minister going to see that the monopoly interest of these big people do not come in the way?

**SHRI A. P. SHARMA:** I do not know who are the people who constitute the Save Bombay Committee. I can only say that this complaint was received by the environmentalists. But they are also perhaps members of this Save Bombay Committee. On the basis of that, the whole thing has been enquired into.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** While replying to the original question of Dr. Vasant Kumar Pandit, the hon. Minister said that the Prime Minister had not issued instructions to stay the implementation of, or going ahead with the project. Let the Minister himself go through the reply that he has given, because there are observations recorded wherein, without using the words that the decision has been stayed. The Minister for Defence Production goes there. I do not want to say anything, but I think he is a confidant of the Prime Minister

also. He went there. He tried to find out what exactly are the objections of the environmentalists. These environmentalists are also the Save Bombay people. They are also the evolutionists. All of them are combined together, and they have been saying that the entire climate will be polluted and, therefore, this Port should not be developed.

Really speaking, there are 3 angles from which the Minister will have to give the answer. Firstly, the Planning Commission has given a clearance to this project. Secondly, he himself has clearly admitted in his written answer that the Public Investment Board has also cleared it. His only contention is that the environmentalists, whom he does not know, are identical with the Save Bombay people there.

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: I have not said that. I do not know whether they are also the members of that Save Bombay Committee.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: For that, you can rely on me. I am from Bombay. They are the same. They have been saying that there will be pollutions. There also, if the Minister goes through the answer he has given, he will see that one aspect of that Nhava Sheva port by ONGC has been mentioned. They are so many aspects of that port. Therefore, only for a small fraction of the development of that port, does he propose to stay the entire development of the Nhava Sheva port which is going to develop the hinterland of Bombay, and going to give a lot of job opportunities and so many other opportunities to the hinterland of Bombay? In view of this, will he re-consider his staying the present decision—though he has not said that he is staying it? But from his answer it appears so. Will he give an assurance that he will speedily go ahead with it? Saying that it is under consideration indirectly means . . . .

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: The intention of the Government is quite clear from the answer, and the actions that have

been taken from time to time in this respect. There should not be any doubt about it. But whenever some difficulties come in our way, I hope my hon. friend does not suggest that they should not be examined, or that they should not be enquired into.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The intentions are very clear. But there is a saying that the road to Hell is paved with the best intentions. Please note it.

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: From my answer, I do not know how he concludes that the action has been stayed. I have made it absolutely clear that the report of the Minister of State for Defence Production regarding the objections raised by the environmentalists is being considered by the Government, and that the whole question of setting up a port at Nhava Sheva is under the consideration of the Government. And I have explained the various steps that have been taken. It is true that the study group of the Planning Commission has cleared it. It is also correct that the PIB has cleared it, and that now we are commissioning a detailed project report. There this difficulty has come, and, therefore, the whole thing is under consideration.

#### Bidi Workers' Labour Welfare Fund

\*781. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to drop the Bidi Workers' Labour Welfare Fund;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, what are the sources for the Bidi Workers' Labour Welfare Fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJLAH): (a) and (b). No Sir.

(c) The Finance Act, 1979-80 exempted the unmanufactured tobacco