

12.13 hrs.

CHINGHAI-TIBET HIGHWAY

Mr. Speaker: There is another adjournment motion tabled by Shri Goray. What is this matter about?

Shri Goray (Poona): I have given notice of an adjournment motion because a very significant item of news has been despatched by the *New China News Agency* on the 24th of this month. The main features of this news item are:—

- (1) The road across Ladakh territory opened in 1955 is carrying thrice the freight traffic per month that it carried in 1955;
- (2) That road has been made into an all-weather road; and
- (3) Sixty plants, mines, farms and timber growing areas have been developed along the road during the last five years.

In short, it means that they have colonised the area. I may draw your attention to the fact that while discussing Sino-Indian affairs, the letter our Prime Minister wrote to the Prime Minister of China on the 16th November 1959, says in paragraph 13:

"I regret I cannot accept the contention that you have been in occupation of the area up to the frontier line shown in your maps. On the contrary, the Government of India have exercised jurisdiction up to the frontier line specified by them. The nature of this possession has inevitably been different from that of an inhabited area. This area is uninhabited, mountainous territory of an altitude varying from 14,000 to 20,000 feet above sea-level, with the mountain peaks going up much higher".

In this particular territory which has been described by our Prime Min-

ister in these words they say they have already built not only the road but have started traffic; plants have been erected and colonisation has taken place. In the Press interview, the Prime Minister had said that if the Chinese were to propose that this road should be allowed to be used for civil traffic, that request could be considered. Now, Sir, the Chinese have not waited for our permission at all. On the contrary, they have said that their traffic has increased three-fold and colonisation is going on apace. If these are the facts, then all the debate that is taking place in this House become meaningless. So I would like to know what is the position.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): The Defence Minister must have known it.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): Is this a matter for discussion in an adjournment motion? We are already discussing the question of Sino-Indian relations.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Apart from that, the hon. Member is really drawing attention to a news item from Hong Kong which has appeared in a newspaper today.

Mr. Speaker: What is the authority of the newspaper?

Shri Goray: The *New China News Agency*. It is authoritative.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It refers to the Chinghai-Tibet highway. It is by no means clear to me from reading this whether it even refers to the other road. It may or it may not; it is by no means clear to me. Anyhow, it is very difficult for me to give any information about something that has suddenly appeared in a news item there. Naturally, we shall try to get as much information as possible. But it is not easy to get it quickly from anywhere. Anyhow, it is hardly a matter for an adjournment motion.

Mr. Speaker: If the Chinese have already occupied this portion.....

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: First of all, I do not know if this road is the same as the Aksai-Chin Road. We do not know that.

Shri Goray: May I clarify? Here they have stated specifically:

"China today bragged that the average monthly volume of freight traffic on the disputed Chinghai-Tibet highway, which has been built across Indian territory in Ladakh, is at present three times more than in 1955".

So far as the news item is concerned, it gives no room for doubt.

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid I was misunderstood before I completed my sentence. If, as a matter of fact, this news item is correct and plants and machinery and other things have been moved there and the area has even been colonised, colonised by whom?

Shri Goray: The Chinese.

Mr. Speaker: Of course, if they have colonised, they will be removed from that area as part of the removal from other areas which they have occupied. Therefore this is part of a bigger issue. It only adds more point, to what is already there in that it is not that they have been merely occupying uninhabited territory but they have been proceeding further. Therefore, it has to be treated a little more seriously. That is all that it amounts to.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Will the Prime Minister investigate the matter and make a statement?

Mr. Speaker: He says so. He is not aware of it; he will try to make inquiries. There is no doubt about it.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: May I again submit that this is a message from Hong Kong? It talks about the Chinghai-Tibet highway. The

Chinghai-Tibet highway is not the Aksai-Chin highway at all. It is a different thing. But the man who has passed it on from Hong Kong has probably mixed up the two and despatched it. I am only basing myself on his own report. I have no other information. In that report, reference is made to the Chinghai-Tibet highway. It is not the Aksai-Chin Road at all.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: He may make a statement on Monday.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot promise that it will be on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday.

Shri Goray: I shall be satisfied if the Prime Minister would give an assurance that he would look into it.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot do anything beyond my power. I can give the assurance that I will look into it. But I cannot say that I can make a statement on Monday.

Shri Goray: I am not insisting that it should be on Monday. Any time will do.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: If any important information comes to me, I shall place it before the House. But I cannot obviously find out easily about such matters. I am merely coming to certain conclusions from this report itself. This report talks about the Chinghai-Tibet highway. The Chinghai-Tibet highway is not the Aksai-Chin Road.

Mr. Speaker: So far as is known at present, there is no urgency for this adjournment motion. Certainly the hon. Prime Minister will make inquiries to find out whether any particular portion has been occupied as stated here; if so, he will bring it up before the House himself.

Under the circumstances, it is not necessary to have an adjournment of the legitimate business of this House today considering this as a separate

issue. I do not give my consent to the adjournment motion.

Shri Goray: Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Anyhow, all these matters will come up in the reply.

12.20 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

EMPLOYMENT OF ENGINEERS

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour, Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra): (on behalf of *Shri Galzari Lal Nanda*): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of statement on employment of engineers. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 15].

REPORTS OF TARIFF COMMISSION

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of Section 16 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951, a copy of each of the following papers:—

- (i) Report (1959) of the Tariff Commission on the continuance of protection to the Hydroquinone Industry.
- (ii) Government Resolution No. 8(1)-T.R./59, dated the 26th November, 1959.
- (iii) Notification No. 8(i)-T.R./59, dated the 26th November, 1959.
- (iv) Statement explaining the reasons why a copy each of the documents at (i) to (iii) above could not be laid on the Table within the period prescribed in the said sub-section, [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1725/59.]
- (v) Report (1959) of the Tariff Commission on the continuance of protection to the Grinding Wheels Industry.
- (vi) Government Resolution No. 16(1)-T.R./59, dated the 26th November, 1959.

272(ai) L.S.D.—4

(vii) Statement explaining the reasons why a copy each of the documents referred to at (v) and (vi) above could not be laid within the period prescribed under said sub-section. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1726/59.]

(viii) Report (1959) of the Tariff Commission on the continuance of protection to the Sago Industry.

(ix) Government Resolution No. 12(1)-T.R./59, dated the 26th November, 1959.

(x) Notification No. 12(1)-T.R./59, dated the 26th November, 1959.

(xi) Statement explaining the reasons why a copy each of the documents referred to at (viii) to (x) above could not be laid within the period prescribed under the said sub-section. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1727/59.]

12.21 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:—

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 25th November, 1959, agreed without any amendment to the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 1959, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 17th November, 1959".