

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : The Minister said that these gold mines are incurring losses. I want to know about the loss on account of the sale of gold at the international markets or even if it is sold internally will it still be in loss ? What is the position ?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : It is true that we are supplying all the gold produced from Kolar goldfield at the international monetary price, that is Rs. 84-40 per 10 grammes. The market price is very nearly double or even more than double...

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : It is more than three times.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : If it is sold in the market, how much would it fetch ?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN ; Roughly speaking, at the present cost, the price of gold produced comes to about Rs 2 crores. If we were to sell it at market price, it would come to about Rs. 4 crores, and the cost of operation of these mines comes to about Rs. 6 crores.

श्री शशि भूषण : आपके जरिये मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या वह हमारा मुबारिकबाद स्वीकार करेंगे कि उन्होंने गोल्ड माइन्ज को और वापर माइन्ज को अपने हाथ में ले लिया है ? इसी तरह एल्यूमिनियम का प्रोडक्शन और माइनिंग मोनोपोलिस्ट्रम के हाथ में है। क्या वह उसको भी राष्ट्रीयकरण करने के लिए तैयार हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इस सवाल को आपने उन से अलग पूछ लिया होता।

श्री शशि भूषण : वह जवाब देने के लिए तैयार है।

श्री राहनबाज खाँ : स्पीकर साहब ने कहा है कि यह क्वेश्चन एराइज नहीं होता।

Indo-US Talks

*382 **SHRI ARJUN SETHI** : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the U. S. Government has begun talks with the Indian Government in an

effort to iron out misunderstandings about the American policy during the Indo-Pakistan War, 1971 ; and

(b) if so, at what level and its outcome ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Diplomatic contacts between the Governments of India and the United States never ceased to exist. As is normal in such contacts, discussion on Indo-U.S. relations has continued uninterrupted.

(b) Talks have been going on through normal diplomatic channels at Ambassadorial level in New Delhi and Washington. Regarding their outcome, it is not customary to reveal such matters in advance.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : I had asked about the US policy towards India during the Indo-Pak war. May I know whether there has been misunderstanding between the two countries regarding the US policy towards India ?

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member himself has said in his question that there was some misunderstanding and he has asked what steps have been taken to remove the misunderstanding ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : The US Government's attitude during the Indo-Pakistan conflict was based upon incorrect appreciation of the relevant facts of the situation, and, therefore, it was biased.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : What kind of diplomatic discussion is going on at ambassadorial level ?

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has said that they are not revealed.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : With a view to exploring the possibility of improving the relations.

SHRI PILOO MODY : Is he having cocktails with them ?

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER : May I know whether our Government think

that the present attitude of the US Government towards India is friendly or unfriendly ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : There may be certain specific fields in which it may not be friendly, but we are having normal usual relations with the USA.

SHRI PILOO MODY : The hon Minister said earlier that the American attitude towards India was based on a not proper appreciation of the situation as it existed on misinformation in other words. I would like to know what the Government of India have done to straighten out the misappreciation that was taking place and whether the process is still continuing.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : From the time the Bangla Desh question faced us and we were inundated with an endless stream of refugees right up to the Indo-Pakistan conflict and till the end of it, we had taken every step to keep the US Government fully informed about the situation as we saw it, but we were unable to convince them because they had their own approach to the problem which, to say the least, was not impartial.

With regard to the future, it is our desire that normal relations should be established, but I do not think that the two sides can agree about their attitude during the conflict and during the period preceding it, and we get the impression that so far as the past is concerned we will have to reckon with the situation that the two sides did not agree ; but if there is any possibility of future normalisation of relations, we should continue to explore it. This is the direction in which we are pursuing our efforts.

Refusal of South Vietnamese Government to Renew Visas for Indian Members of International Control Commission

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*383 **DR. RANEN SEN :**
SHRI MUHAMMED SHERIFF :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of South Vietnam announced on the 20th March, 1972 that it would no longer issue or renew entry visas for the Indian members of the International Control Commission ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The Government of Republic of Vietnam had made an announcement to that effect on the 8th of January, 1972.

(b) The Government of India are of the view that such a measure would be unwarranted, discriminatory and in violation of the stipulations made under Geneva Agreement of 1954 and would amount to a measure against the Commission as a whole. The Government of South Vietnam have since revalidated the visas of all the Indian members of the ICSC beginning 1st April valid for a period of approximately six months.

DR. RANEN SEN : In view of the fact that this Commission was the end-product of the Geneva Conference on Vietnam and India thus became Chairman of the Commission, has the South Vietnamese Government any authority to impose any conditions or visa restrictions for six months or one year ?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : No, obviously it is not right to impose such restrictions. This is what we pointed out to them. As a result of our talks and negotiations with them, they have now revalidated the visas for the next six months.

DR. RANEN SEN : My question which remains unanswered was whether according to the stipulations of the Geneva Conference, this particular country can impose any restrictions on the ICC members representing other countries.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : In this particular case, it has been the custom that visas have not been granted even in the past for indefinite periods. They have been granted for a specific or specified period. The same thing has happened on this occasion also. This is the attitude of the host Government, in this case the South Vietnamese Government, towards the delegations of Poland and Canada also who are co-members of this Commission.

DR. RANEN SEN : In view of this statement and the fact that the Saigon Government