

I know whether the Government of India have taken up this matter with other important countries like Australia and New Zealand and if they have not done so, will Government consult them now ?

**SHRI SWARAN SINGH :** I agree that this is a matter of importance for all countries in the region and Australia and New Zealand fall in that category. The Foreign Minister of Australia is likely to visit us towards the end of this month and I am sure this matter may come up for discussion then.

**SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY :** Will it be correct to infer that no other country except Thailand has evinced interest in this Asian security system, and will the Government of India have a dialogue with China for ensuring Asian security ?

**SHRI SWARAN SINGH :** This question does not relate to Asian security as such, but I have said that ASEAN countries have jointly made a declaration. In that group, Thailand is one country and there are other countries also. Therefore, it is not correct to say that Thailand alone has subscribed to this statement.

**SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH :** In view of the fact that Thailand has favoured neutralisation of the Indian Ocean, may I know whether the South-East Asian Treaty Organisation, which includes Thailand also still holds good or any indication has been made to review the whole position to achieve this objective for which Thailand and our country had discussions?

**SHRI SWARAN SINGH :** It is a fact that Thailand is a member of SEATO, but it is difficult for us to comment as to whether SEATO is still valid, when all these other ideas are being projected, because we have always been totally opposed to SEATO and CENTO. Our attitude in this respect is categorical. At the same time, it is for the member countries of SEATO and CENTO to decide as to whether these old treaties have any validity today or not.

I would be disinclined to raise that matter with the member countries of SEATO.

### **Celebration of Indian Independence Silver Jubilee in Indian Embassies**

\*685. **SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether instructions have been sent to our Embassies abroad to observe Indian Independence Silver Jubilee ; and

(b) if so, whether it has also been stressed on them to highlight the image of great Bapujee of Indian and his life in poster, article etc.?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) (a) and  
(b) :** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :** May I know from the hon. Minister whether in view of the Silver Jubilee occasion, a delegation consisting of prominent freedom fighters, excluding Members of Parliament, will be sent abroad and also may I know from the hon Minister whether this specific function will be observed in Singapore to remember Netaji Subash Chandra Bose ?

**SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH :** These are two very valuable suggestions made by the hon Member. We will give due consideration to them.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** May I know whether the Government of India have issued any kind of guide-lines or directives to our Embassies abroad as to what sort of programmes would be appropriate for them to observe in connection with the 25th Independence Anniversary and, if so, what is the general nature of the guide-lines given to them. We do not want them to hold different types of programmes.

**SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH :** The general guide-lines have been laid down. If I may inform the hon. Member, a high-powered Committee has been set up by the Government of India to go into the whole question as to what kind of programmes should be drawn up for celebrating the 25th Independence Anniversary in an appropriate manner. They have drawn up a programme

which has been communicated to our Embassies I may just indicate a few of the items

One is to bring out a special publication on India in English, French, Spanish, Russian and Arabic for distribution by our Embassies abroad.

It is also intended to produce and supply to our Embassies abroad a film on India since Independence for screening over foreign T.V. stations and cinema houses.

Like that, there are a number of things, for instance, inviting of foreign journalists and cinema and radio and T.V. experts to our country where they can make their own films and show them in their own countries.

It is also intended to assist Indian Missions abroad in organising India Days and India Weeks in the host countries and also supply material to our Missions abroad for organising exhibitions, film shows, etc. to commemorate the silver jubilee.

All these ideas are there.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA** He is suggesting things which will be supplied from here, films or books or other material. I would like to know whether our Embassies there will be content with just holding cock tail parties or what.

**MR. SPEAKER** When it is to remember Bapujee, how can you have cock tail parties?

**SHRI SURENDRA PAI SINGH** The instructions have been sent and will be sent in future also as to the lines on which they should carry on the celebrations. It is not as if they will be left to themselves. After receiving the instructions and guidelines from us, they will draw up their plans and they will inform us about those plans.

**SHRI K. G. DESHMUKH** I have visited some of our Missions abroad, and I find there is no photograph of Bapujee even exhibited in the offices of our Missions abroad. If that is so, may I know whether the hon. Minister will give instructions to them to exhibit the photograph of Bapujee,

the Father of our nation, in their Embassy office?

**SHRI SURENDRA PAI SINGH** I am sorry to hear that there are some Indian Missions abroad where there are no photographs of Bapujee. We will see that the photographs are provided to our Missions abroad.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU** May I know whether any special funds have been allotted for the occasion and if so, how much is it and how much of it is in foreign exchange?

**SHRI SURENDRA PAI SINGH** The whole scheme is at the formative stage. At the moment our Missions abroad are making their plans. I am sure they will work out their financial implications. After hearing from them, we will naturally make adequate provision of funds, etc. to carry out the silver jubilee celebrations.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU** No ceiling? You have no idea how much they will spend.

**SHRI SURENDRA PAI SINGH** A ceiling will be prescribed. Adequate funds will be made available to our Missions. Of course, a ceiling will be there.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU** I was trying to say why spend any money?

श्री रामचन्द्र विक्रम विदेग मंत्री  
महादय न कहा कि भारतीय दूतावासों का  
निर्देशन भेजी जायेगी। मैं उन से पूछना  
चाहता हूँ कि वह रुपये का कब तक भ्रज दी  
जायेगी?

श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह जल्दी म जल्दी।

**SHRI PHOON MODY** My bad experience with high powered committees is that they have normally no decision making power at all. I hope, he can spell out what this is, I hope he can tell us what this high powered committee consists of. May I make another suggestion, Sir, that supplements should be brought out in all major daily papers of the

countries where we want to celebrate the Silver Jubilee ?

**SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH :** This is a suggestion which is taken note of.

**SHRI PILOO MODY :** I asked who were on the high-powered committee.

**SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA :** May I know from the hon. Minister whether there are any plans to raise an INA memorial at Singapore which was earlier removed by the British ?

**SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH :** That is a different question altogether.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :** I am happy that instructions have been issued to our foreign embassies. I would like to know whether any documentary has been produced to high light our national fight against the imperialist power.....

**SHRI PILOO MODY :** Ending with the Indo-Soviet Treaty.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :** The Indo-Soviet Treaty and also celebration of the emergence of Bangla Desh.

I would like to know whether any film has been produced, any documentary has been produced, to show to the world how the Indians fought against the British power and how they are still fighting against American imperialism.

**SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH :** I have already replied to this question. There is a proposal to produce a film which will be covering the entire Indian scene right from the Independence movement to this day.

**SHRI R. S. PANDAY :** This is a historic occasion to us—celebrating the Silver Jubilee of our Independence in the various countries of the world. May I know whether Government is contemplating to send cultural teams to important countries, including Members of Parliament like Shri Piloo Mody ?

**MR. SPEAKER :** Next Question.

**Setting-up of more Mini Steel Plants in Private Sector.**

\*686. **SHRI NARENDRA SINGH :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to approve the setting up of more mini-steel plants in private sector ; and

(b) if so, the number of parties who have been granted letters of intent for this purpose ?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) :** (a) The question of approving further capacity for manufacture of steel ingots or billets from steel scrap in electric furnaces by conventional or continuous casting process, whether in the private or public sector, is being examined by Government in the background of the likely availability of such scrap.

(b) 19 letters of Intent/C O.B Licence/ Industrial Licences have been issued for such units since the pre-ent industrial licensing policy was announced in February 1970.

**SHRI NARENDRA SINGH :** May I know whether these plants will be able to meet the shortage of steel in the country ?

**SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM :** The contribution which is likely to be made by these plants when they come into existence is only of a minor character. The major contribution must come from the integrated steel plants.

**SHRI R. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI :** May I know, Sir, whether there is any proposal from the Government of Kerala to establish a steel Plant at Calicut and if so, what is the attitude of the Government of India in sanctioning such a proposal ?

**MR. SPEAKER :** How does that question arise ?

**SHRI R. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI :** The question is about mini steel plants.