

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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Thursday, July 14, 1977/Asadha 23,
1899 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]
ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Asian Collective Security

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*465. DR. HENRY AUSTIN:
SHRI NIHAR LASKAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Soviet Union has
spelt out her idea of Asian Collective
Security in clear terms;

(b) if so, whether the Indian Gov-
ernment have examined the same;
and

(c) if so, their reaction thereto?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI
MORARJI DESAI): (a) to (c). The
Soviet Union had, in 1969, put forward
the concept of Asian Collective Security
but concrete proposals have so far
not been made. In our view, it is for
the countries of the region to discuss
various ideas on the subject and to
evolve, after mutual consultation, ways
and means of promoting peace and
stability and strengthening mutually
beneficial cooperation on bilateral and
regional basis.

DR. HENRY AUSTIN: As early as
1969 the Soviet Union had offered cer-
tain proposals for checkmating the then
emerging danger in relation to the
security of various Asian countries.

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Since then the Helsinki Conference on
Co-operation and Security in Europe
was held in July, 1975 which worked
out a system of security for European
and some other countries. The concept
of detente that had emerged out of
the Conference seems to be providing
some security to the European and
North-Atlantic Powers, but, an effort
is being now made to confine the bene-
fits of that to the European countries
only. This is the position that I want
to highlight here. This has to be re-
lated to the situation emerging in Asia.
After this Helsinki Conference there
seems to be a free-for-all situation in
Asia and Africa.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is
the question? This is the Question
Hour.

DR. HENRY AUSTIN: So, I want to
know whether the Government are
taking adequate steps to meet the situ-
ation of insecurity in and around our
country. The paper reports show...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is the
Question Hour. It is neither Calling
Attention nor a Bill on which you can
speak at length. You must put a
specific question.

DR. HENRY AUSTIN: May I know
whether Government are aware of the
unrestrained accumulation of lethal
weapons around our country, parti-
cularly in Saudi Arabia, Iran and
Pakistan, and whether any collective
security arrangements are being
thought of with countries interested in
checkmating these developments and
assuring a unclear-free zone in Asia?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: Without
being involved in bloc arrangement
for military security, we are doing all
that we can to see that security is pro-

perly ensured. But that does not depend only upon us. If it has again deteriorated into a bloc we are not interested in it. Russia has not yet specified what exactly they mean by what they are saying.

DR. HENRY AUSTIN: In recent weeks some Moscow papers have been highlighting what actually they mean by this Asian Security. But that apart in view of the menacing situation around us, whether the Government will exchange views with countries in the neighbourhood to take stock of the situation.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: We will exchange views with whosoever wants to have exchange of views with us.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Whether the recent Helsinki deliberations and the spirit of detente would be extended to Asian security Club. Whether our country is taking any initiative in this regard.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: I am not concerned here with Helsinki at all.

श्री भ्राम प्रकाश त्यागी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे बड़ी प्रसन्नता है कि प्रधान मंत्री महोदय ने यह घोषणा की कि किसी भी मिलिट्री पंचत या ब्लाक में हमारा विश्वास नहीं है। मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि आर्थिक सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से भी आपने क्या एशियन कंट्रीज के लिए कोई रक्षा की व्यवस्था की है क्योंकि वर्तमान समय में ये जितने बड़े बड़े ब्लाक्स हैं ये इनको एक्सप्लायट कर रहे हैं? तो आर्थिक सुरक्षा के लिए आप ने क्या कोई योजना बनायी है?

श्री मोरारजी देसाई : जो एक्सप्लायट हो रहे हैं और एक्सप्लायट होना चाहते हो तो मैं क्या करूँ ?

चौधरी बलबीर सिंह : क्या प्रधान मंत्री महोदय बताएंगे कि एशियन कलेक्टिव सेक्योरिटी के नाम पर और इसी किस्म की और संस्थाओं के नाम पर बिग पावर्स वहाँ के

इलाकाई मामलों में दखल देने की और वहाँ की सियासत में दखल देने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं और क्या भारत सरकार यह कोशिश करेगी कि एशिया में ये बिग पावर्स अपना पंजा न घुसा सकें और यह शांति का जोन बना रहे ?

श्री मोरारजी देसाई : हमें किसी पर आरोप करने की जरूरत नहीं है, मगर इतना सम्मानित सभा सद विश्वास रखें कि हम किसी को अपना पंजा अपने ऊपर डालने नहीं देंगे।

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: When the Soviet Foreign Minister recently visited us, did he again refer to this concept? If so, whether that was the variation on the original concept. Secondly, the Soviet Union also consider itself to be an Asian country. So, when the hon. Prime Minister said that it was for the countries of this region to consider their security problem, did he also include Soviet Union amongst those countries?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: He did not mention it even by a long for-k.

श्री तेज प्रताप सिंह : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि एशियन सेक्योरिटी के लिए एशिया महाद्वीप के तमाम देशों से मिल कर कोई पालिसी निर्धारित की है सुरक्षा के लिए या भविष्य में कोई विचार विनिमय कर के स्वयं सुरक्षित रहने के लिये कोई योजना बनाई है ?

श्री मोरारजी देसाई : स्वयं सुरक्षित रहने के लिए तो हमारी योजना है ही और वह हम करते ही रहेंगे।

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Now in the nuclear weaponry, neutron bomb has been added and laser-power-base weapons are also there. Whether the attention of Soviet Russia will be drawn that real collective security for Asia can be provided only if the big powers agree to give up this competition of

nuclear weaponry and weaponry of other destructive nature. If so, whether India will take initiative to raise the matter in the forum of the United Nations.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: Before we take any initiative, we should qualify ourselves to have the initiative on the basis of our strength. We have, first of all, to have that position of strength in the world. In this matter, I have no doubt in my mind that there can be no security in Asia or in the world as long as there are atomic weapons. Therefore, it has been our attempt to see that these weapons disappear.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: In view of the fact that the Soviet Union has repeatedly stated that they have no bases in the Indian Ocean or in this part of the world which is one of the biggest threats to the Asian security and also, in view of the fact that the United States is planning to have bases in addition to Diego Garcia even in the Bay of Bengal, is the Government doing anything to protest against this attitude of the United States in accelerating the tension in this region which is a threat to the Asian security?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This has nothing to do with the proposal put forward by the Soviet Union.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: All the questions of Asian security include the question of bases also. The bases are not excluded from the collective security.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We are specifically discussing the proposal of Asian Collective Security put forward by Soviet Union.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: The question is:

"Whether Soviet Union has spelt out her idea of Asian Collective Security....."

In that, the question of bases is also included. If you say it is not included, let us know.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: Firstly, the hon. Member is wrong in stating that the Soviet Union has no base whatsoever. It has its spheres of influence in the Indian Ocean. That cannot be denied. It is a race between the two powerful nations. It is from that that we have to save Asia. That is what we are trying to do.

Weeklies and Monthlies Published by Foreign Embassies in India

*466. **SHRI SAMAR GUHA:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) names of weeklies and monthlies published by the Embassies of Soviet Russia, East European countries and U.S.A. in India and volumes of their circulations;

(b) whether they are sold or circulated free;

(c) whether similar weeklies and monthlies are published by the Indian Embassies in those countries; if so, their names and volumes of circulation; and

(d) whether Soviet Russia and other countries, as stated above permit Indian awards for the Russian readers of the type of Soviet Land Nehru Awards as prevalent in India; if so, facts thereabout?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) and (b). Relevant information is placed on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-695/77*].

(c) Yes, Sir.

The Indian Embassy in Washington brings out a weekly publication entitled "India News". It is distributed free on request and has a circulation of over 32,000. The Indian Embassy in Moscow brings out a quarterly magazine in Russia "INDIA" with a circulation of 40,000. It is priced at 40 Kopeks (approx. Rs. 4.75).

(d) Yes, Sir.