

## SETTLEMENT OF VIETNAM CONFLICT

- \*16. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA :  
 SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE :  
 SHRI HEM BARUA :  
 SHRI K. N. PANDEY :  
 SHRI PRAKASH VIR  
 SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recent escalation of U.S. air raids on North Vietnam has made the prospects of a peaceful settlement of the Vietnam conflict more difficult;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to persuade U.S.A. to stop bombing of North Vietnam;

(c) whether India has taken any fresh initiative to find a peaceful solution to the Vietnam problem; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this direction ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) :

(a) to (d). In the view of the Government of India, the first essential step for the creation of a proper atmosphere for discussion of the Vietnam problem with a view to achieving a peaceful solution is the immediate and unconditional stoppage of the bombing of North Vietnam. Consequently, continuance or escalation of the air raids or of the other hostilities is likely to make the achievement of a peaceful settlement more difficult.

The Government of India is in touch with the various parties concerned and is taking all possible action through diplomatic channels to achieve the above-mentioned objective of a peaceful settlement. It would not be in the public interest to disclose the details of the action taken at diplomatic level.

## CONSTRUCTION OF NAVAL SHIPS

- \*17. SHRI TULSIDAS DASAPPA :  
 Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal for the construction of Naval ships such as, frigates and minesweepers, has been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which their production will start ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Mazagon Dock Ltd. Bombay are at present constructing two inshore minesweepers and Leander Class Frigates for the Indian Navy. The first inshore minesweeper was launched in April 1967 and is expected to be commissioned in early 1968.

Production on the first frigate commenced in May 1966 and it is expected to be launched by end 1968 and to be commissioned by October 1970.

DR. DHARMA TEJA

- \*18. SHRI D. C. SHARMA :  
 SHRI HARDAYAL DEVGUN :  
 SHRI P. RAMAMURTI :  
 SHRI A. K. GOPALAN :  
 SHRI E. K. NAYANAR :  
 SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL :  
 SHRI P. GOPALAN :  
 SHRI NAMBIAR :  
 SHRIMATI SUSEELA  
 GOPALAN :  
 SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :  
 SHRI ARJUN SINGH  
 BHADORIA :  
 SHRI RABI RAY :  
 SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :  
 SHRI C. JANARDHANAN :  
 SHRI MRITYUNJAYA  
 PRASAD :  
 SHRI N. K. P. SALVE :  
 SHRI SARJOO PANDEY :  
 SHRI HEM BARUA :  
 SHRI S. M. JOSHI :  
 SHRI KAMESHWAR SINGH :  
 SHRI PREM CHAND  
 VERMA :  
 SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL :  
 SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. Dharma Teja against whom extradition proceedings are going on in the United States, jumped bail and fled to Switzerland; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) :** (a) Yes, Sir. Dr. and Mrs. Teja jumped bail while extradition proceedings were going on against them in U.S.A. but they have fled to Costa Rica and not to Switzerland.

(b) As soon as information about their fleeing to Costa Rica was received, a delegation headed by Dr. Banerjee, our Minister in the Embassy in Washington, was sent to Costa Rica to meet the President and the Foreign Minister of Costa Rica. The delegation had taken with them all papers relating to the case against the Tejas including certified and original copies of the order of the U.S. Commissioner certifying the case for extradition of Dr. & Mrs. Teja and the warrant of arrest issued by the U.S. Commissioner for the arrest of Dr. & Mrs. Teja. As a result of the efforts of this delegation the Costa Rican Government cancelled the travel documents of the Tejas and also ordered their arrest pending their deportation to U.S.A. However, Tejas probably got scent of this order and went into hiding. An attorney submitted a petition on their behalf to the Supreme Court of Costa Rica praying for cancellation of the orders for the arrest of Dr. & Mrs. Teja pending their deportation and for grant of political asylum to them. On November 1, 1967, however, the Tejas surrendered to the Costa Rican authorities and pending decision on their application for political asylum they were placed under police surveillance. Action is now being taken for representation at the highest level in Costa Rica with a view to convince the authorities that the Tejas are criminal fugitives and that the case against them relates purely to criminal offences and the question of granting political asylum to them does not arise.

**'OBSERVER' SHIP CARRYING MILO FOR INDIA**

**\*19. SHRI KAMESHWAR SINGH :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of U.A.R. has agreed to allow the ship 'Observer' carrying milo for India to pass through the Suez Canal before its actual opening; and

(b) if so, the results thereof ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) :** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**CONCENTRATION OF CHINESE ARMY ON THE INDO-TIBETAN BORDER**

**\*20. SHRI D. N. PATODIA :**  
**SHRI Y. A. PRASAD :**  
**SHRI A. SREEDHARAN :**  
**SHRI MARANDI :**

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that recently intense Chinese troop movements have been reported in the North-East regions including Walong, Sela and Jelap La areas;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the concentration of the Chinese army all along the Indo-Tibetan border has been increased; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to meet the threat ?

**THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) :** (a) and (b). As has been indicated on the floor of this House before, the Chinese continue to remain in strength along our northern borders and the borders of Sikkim with Tibet. In the Chumbi Valley area, which includes the area across Jelap La, the Chinese have particularly strengthened their positions both before and after the incidents resulting from their firing at Nathu La and Cho La.

(c) The activity on the other side having a bearing on our security is taken due note of and measures taken to meet any threat arising therefrom.

**DEPLOYMENT OF PAK ARMY ON ASSAM BORDER**

**\*21. SHRI MAYAVAN :**  
**SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHANDA :**  
**SHRI D. N. PATODIA :**  
**SHRI D. N. DEB :**