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Rajya Sabha Debate on Nuclear Prohibition

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Summary:

Debate among members of the Rajya Sabha on attendance to a Chinese hosted Summit Conference on Nuclear Weapons.

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869 Oral Answers [RAJYA SABHA] to Questions 870

SHRI C. R. PATTABHI RAMAN: I have stated, Sir, that no application has been received. When it is received, I am sure it will be taken into consideration.

SHRI A. D. MANI: According to the Statement, Sir, items 3, 4 and 5 which relate to fee ranges, allowances and increments, are under the consideration of the Government. May I ask the hon. Minister whether the question of giving increments retrospectively from the date of appointment is also under consideration, or only the question of giving of prospective increments?

SHRI C. R. PATTABHI RAMAN: All this is being considered. The whole matter is really under consideration. Items 3, 4 and 5 are under consideration.

SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: Is it a fact that this Association has been formed at the suggestion of the Secretary of the Ministry?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. I have called Shri Thengari.

SHRI D. THENGARI: Is it a fact that this Association was registered under the Societies Registration Act because the artistes were informed that they will not be allowed trade union rights?

SHRI C. R. PATTABHI RAMAN: Sir, they met the Minister. All of them happened to be there on deputation. So far as I know, the Association has been registered. As far as recognition is concerned, the trade-union law is there and all these things will be duly considered under the rules which are there.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: May I know whether the Minister can give a categorical assurance that once they apply for recognition, they will be considered? Is there any difficulty in their case necessitating their case to be considered separately?

SHRI C. R. PATTABHI RAMAN: As far as the Government servants are concerned, this will have to be considered but then, it is not likely that other unions may be there for which there is the law of trade-unions.

SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: I want to know whether it is a fact that this trade union is being formed at the suggestion of the Secretary of the Ministry?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: We have had an informal discussion with them. I do not know whether any suggestion was made but I share the anxiety of the hon. Members that the staff artistes should get a fair deal and I realise they have not had a fair deal so far, and that is why we are going into the whole matter very thoroughly; but we are also somewhat bound by financial implications as far as these proposals are concerned.

SHRIMATI SHAKUNTALA PARANJPYE: I know that there are some staff artistes who have been working for the All India Radio for more than ten years. Is the Government of India going to lay down a period of time after which they will be made permanent Government servants or is this temporary contract basis to continue always?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: The staff artistes are not ordinary people like clerks and so on. Therefore, you cannot have them permanently. It depends on whether they can carry out a programme. For instance, the voice may be found suitable and he may not be as good an artiste as he was earlier. All these things have to be considered in all their various aspects.

SUMMIT CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS

*165. SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY. Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether Government have received any invi-

tation from the Government of China in connection with the holding of a summit conference to discuss complete prohibition of nuclear weapons?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): Yes, Sir. If I may add, Sir, with your permission, the Chinese Premier's message of October 17, 1964, and the statement of the Government of the Peoples' Republic of China, of October 16, 1964, are being examined by the Government of India. The reply is being sent shortly and will be placed on the Table of the House.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: This is a very important matter. I would like to know whether similar invitations have been issued to the nations of the world or is it confined to only a chosen few in Asia?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: According to our information, this is a general letter that has been issued to all heads of Governments or States and there is not much in this proposal. Some of the Governments have already sent their reply before. We are examining it and we will send a reply; as I said already, we will place a copy of it on the Table of the House.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: The Chinese Government, soon after the explosion, made it clear that under no circumstances and at no time it will be the first to use this bomb. Probably this is a well-meaning intention of the Chinese Government. I would like to know if the Government of India is considering participation in such a conference if it ever came into being?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Sir, I think . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think the hon. Minister has already replied. The

reply is being considered and will be given shortly and it will be laid on the Table of the House. Then you will know.

SHRI G. RAMACHANDRAN: Is the first general reaction to this invitation one of welcome or one of rebuff?

SHRI C. D. PANDE: It is a mockery.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I would be disinclined to accept either of the alternatives. We will examine it dispassionately and when we issue the reply, I will place a copy of that on the Table and the hon. Member can use any word from that.

SHRI GOPIKRISHNA VIJAIVAR-GIYA: We would like to know whether this letter came through the Embassy here or directly, this invitation about the holding of the conference.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: That is a matter of mechanics. I could not say whether it was handed over to our Mission or it came through the Chinese Mission here.

SHRI C. D. PANDE: I would like to know whether the Government of China has assured the Government of India that it will not manufacture any further bombs or whether it wants to manufacture the bombs while asking others not to manufacture the bombs or whether it wants to manufacture but does not want to use these bombs.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Sir, it is significant that in the recent statement, that had been issued by the Chinese Government, no reference has been made to the need for cessation of nuclear weapon tests and the establishment of a nuclear-free zone as was done on an earlier occasion in 1963.

SHRI G. RAMACHANDRAN: I am afraid, my question has not been answered. My question was . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN It has been answered, perhaps not to your satisfaction.

SHRI G RAMACHANDRAN It is a specific question. There is no shilly-shallying about it, it is very clear. There has been an invitation to a particular type of summit meeting. Now, Government is considering, it is always considering something or the other, but my question was, having read the invitation, is the strong reaction one of welcome to a suggestion like that or is there a kind of reaction against it?

SHRI C D PANDE It is just a mockery. No reply is called for. It is just an affront to us.

SHRI LAL BAHADUR It is like a person hitting you on your face and then asking you immediately to sit down at a table. I do not object to any discussion provided all the countries concerned are present. We have always welcomed any such proposal if it came through the United Nations but we do not attach much importance to this invitation which has come from China.

INDOCTRINATION METHODS USED BY CHINA AMONG NEFA TRIBES

*166 **SHRI M RUTHNASWAMY** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have taken any measures to counteract the methods of indoctrination used by the Government of China among the tribes in NEFA; and

(b) if so, the details of the measures taken?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH)

(a) and (b) To counteract such anti-Indian propaganda, the NEFA Administration has taken various measures. In the field of publicity for example, projectors, community listening sets and

audio-visual aids, have been distributed. Special pamphlets have been prepared and news bulletins aimed at presentation of facts in their true perspective are also widely distributed.

SHRI M RUTHNASWAMY When were these counter-propaganda operations started?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH These are not operations as such. This was a desirable programme and it was undertaken soon after the invasion in 1962.

SHRI M RUTHNASWAMY With what results have these measures been attended so far?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH Our information is that these are well appreciated by the people and the results are satisfactory.

SHRI M RUTHNASWAMY Apart from the appreciation, may I ask whether it has done any good to these people to protect them against the vicious propaganda of the Chinese, whether they have been cushioned against any further propaganda by the Chinese as a result of the measures taken by the Government of India?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH I thought if I were to repeat my earlier answer it will be an answer for the present question also. Good and appreciation are interchangeable words.

श्री मन्नालालजी
चौरडिया : क्या श्रीमान् यह बतलायेंगे कि जिन फिल्मों का प्रदर्शन वहाँ पर किया जा रहा है वे अंग्रेजी भाषा में हैं या वहाँ की स्थानीय भाषा में हैं ? अगर हैं, तो कितनी अंग्रेजी भाषा में हैं और कितनी स्थानीय भाषाओं में हैं ?

सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह : इसके बारे में अलाहिदा से नोटिस देंगे तो मैं बतला सकता हूँ ।