

tell the House whether it has made a plea through the intermediary Governments for the remission of this long sentence and, if so, whether there is any response of a sympathetic character from the Portuguese Government? This is my first question.

My second question is whether the family members of this great patriot are enabled to meet him in prison.

Thirdly, what does the Government of India do for the well-being and maintenance of the members of his family here?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : Government greatly shares the grief, anguish and concern of the hon. Members regarding this great freedom fighter. We are very sorry that he is languishing in prison in Portugal and we are trying our very best to get him released. The question of remission does not come in at this stage. We are told that under the Portuguese law, a prisoner has to serve at least half the sentence before he can apply for remission of his remaining sentence. We had taken up this matter with some friendly countries and we were informed by them that when the time comes they would try on this line also.

So far we have not been successful in getting the requisite permission from the Portuguese Government to allow some member of Dr. Mascarenhas's family to go there and visit him. We are making efforts.

SHRI S. N. MISHRA : What does the Government of India do for the well-being and maintenance of the members of his family? That is a very important part of my question?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : That information is not in my possession at the present moment . . .

(Interruptions)

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Sir, it is most unfortunate. Will the Government place the information tomorrow on the Table of the House as to what care is being taken to look after the family members of Dr. Mascarenhas?

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is what he has said.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : He said, he is not aware of it. Sir, Government should lay the information on the Table tomorrow. It is a very serious matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is for him to say.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : I have already said that I have not got the information at the present moment . . .

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen to him.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : Sir, I have submitted that the information as to what we are doing to support the family of Dr. Mascarenhas is not available with me at the present moment. But we will get that information.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you inform the House when you get it?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He will lay the information on the Table of the House when he collects it.

Next question.

NON-ALIGNED MEET IN COLOMBO

*240. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR :†

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a conference of non-aligned countries of Asia was held in Colombo on the 23rd March, 1970;

(b) if so, the subjects discussed at the Conference;

(c) whether the Government of Ceylon have taken up initiative for official level meeting of Asian non-aligned nations;

(d) if so, whether the Government of India have received any communication in this regard from the Ceylonese Government; and

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Dr. (Mrs.) Mangladevi Talwar.

(e) the reaction of the Government of India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) :

(a) and (b) An official level meeting of some Asian non-aligned nations convened at the initiative of the Governments of Indonesia and Ceylon was held at Colombo on 23rd and 24th March, 1970. The purpose of the meeting was to exchange views on the various aspects of the Preparatory Meeting of Non-Aligned States which was subsequently held in Dar-es-Salaam in April, 1970.

(c) Government are not aware of any new initiative in this regard.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR : Sir, I would like to know from the Government whether the question of Indo-China and allied matters were also discussed and what attitude was taken by India on these important issues, as she is the Chairman of the International Control Commission. Also I would like to know whether any attempt has been made to include Pakistan in the conference by some Muslim countries. May I also know whether the views of Yugoslavia and the U.A.R. are identical on the main political issues before the conference?

SHRI DINESH SINGH : Sir, we have already said in the Library of the House a statement regarding the conference that was held in Dar-es-Salaam, and the hon. Member will be able to get the information from this regarding the attitude of the different Governments. It is difficult for us to say whether their views coincide or not, whether the attitudes of two Governments are in agreement or not. Regarding the question of Vietnam, it does not really arise out of this. Whatever was discussed in Dar-es-Salaam is included in the joint communique that was issued. These matters were discussed and various heads of delegations gave their views.

DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR : I would like to know whether the non-aligned conference has taken any decision to admit the Palestine Liberation Front and the South Vietnam Revolutionary Council into the membership of the conference.

SHRI DINESH SINGH : That is all given in the statement. I am sorry the Member has not seen that statement.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : It has been reported that India has been getting increasingly isolated from the non-aligned Afro-Asian countries, particularly in view of the wavering attitude which we have taken in regard to the liberation struggles in Asia and Africa and also because of the big brotherly attitude which we have been showing, may be with reference to the Prime Minister, the "big sisterly" attitude. May I know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that India has been getting increasingly isolated and secondly, whether the Government will review the whole policy of so-called non-alignment, which has in fact become multi-alignment, and whether the Government will follow an independent foreign policy with firmness and consistency?

SHRI DINESH SINGH : Sir, if I may say so respectfully, the hon. Member is probably reading the wrong kind of papers if he gets this impression that we are getting isolated. On the contrary, India is very much part of the non-aligned nations and has made very valuable contributions in the conferences that have been held. In Dar-es-Salaam I did not notice any isolation. On the other hand, there was a great desire for all of us to consult with one another very closely, and India had been in the picture in the various discussions that have been taking place. Regarding the question of following an independent policy, the hon. Member knows that following an independent policy is part of the concept of non-alignment.

श्री निरंजन वर्मा : श्रीमन्, मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि नान-इलाइन्ड कन्फ्रेंस के सदस्य कितने देश हैं और आपने प्रस्ताव पास करने के अलावा उनको इम्प्लीमेंट करने के लिये कौन से कदम उठाये हैं और तीसरी बात यह कि रोडस्त्रिया के मामले में नान-इलाइन्ड देशों ने किसी प्रकार का कोई प्रस्ताव पास किया और अगर पास किया तो उसके कार्यान्वयन के लिए आप कौन से कदम उठा रहे हैं ?

श्री दिनेश सिंह : मेरी कठिनाई यही है कि वक्तव्य को माननीय सदस्य ने नहीं पढ़ा और

ये सब सवाल वे करते जा रहे हैं। अगर वे उसको देखते तो उनके कुछ सवालों का उत्तर उनको उसमें मिल जाता।

जहाँ तक प्रिपेरेटरी कान्फ्रेंस का सवाल है वह जो शिखर सम्मेलन होगा उसका इन्तजाम करने के लिये हुई थी। उसका यह मकसद नहीं था कि वह मसलो का कोई हल निकाले या उन पर कोई रिजोल्यूशन पाम करें। उसका मकसद यह था कि . . .

श्री निरंजन वर्मा : मैंने जो प्रश्न पूछा है माननीय सजी जी या तो उसे समझ नहीं पाये और अगर समझ पाये तो उसका उत्तर देना नहीं चाहते।

श्री सभापति : आप बताइये क्या चीज रह गई।

श्री दिनेश सिंह : वे बता दे तो मैं कोशिश करूँ उसका उत्तर देने की।

श्री सभापति : आपने पूछा कि रिजोल्यूशन पास किया या नहीं।

श्री निरंजन वर्मा : मैंने यह पूछा कि आपने नान-एलाइन्ड जो कन्ट्रीज़ हैं उनकी जो सस्था बनाई है उसमें कुल कितने देश हैं? दूसरी बात, आप केवल प्रस्ताव पास करने के अतिरिक्त उन प्रस्तावों को इम्प्लीमेंट करने का यत्न करते हैं या नहीं और अगर करते हैं तो रोडशिया के मामले में स्पेशली आपने कोई प्रस्ताव पास किया या नहीं और अगर किया तो उसको इम्प्लीमेंट करने के लिये अभी तक कौन सी कार्यवाही की?

श्री दिनेश सिंह : मैं यह कह रहा था कि शुरुआत ही गलत हो गई। माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि नान-एलाइन्ड कन्ट्रीज़ का जो गुट आपने बनाया, तो मैं यह कहना चाहूँगा कि नान-एलाइन्ड कन्ट्रीज़ का कोई गुट है ही नहीं, ये तो गुट-निरपेक्ष देश हैं, उनका कोई गुट नहीं है। कितने देश नान-एलाइन्ड हैं . . . (Interruptions)

श्री सभापति : आप सुनिये तो सही।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : श्रीमान्, जो प्रश्न पूछा जाता है . . .

श्री सभापति : यादव साहब, आप बैठ जायें।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : उनके दिमाग में तो कुछ और चल रहा है।

श्री सभापति : अगर किसी सवाल का जवाब नहीं आया तो मैं उनसे पूछूँगा। अगर आप सब बोलते जायेंगे तो बत जायगा और कोई नतीजा होगा नहीं।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : उनको गलत बोलना नहीं चाहिये।

श्री सभापति : गलत कोई नहीं बोल रहा है। जब तक वे खत्म नहीं कर देते तब तक हम कैसे कहे सकेंगे कि वह सही है या गलत है।

श्री दिनेश सिंह : सभापति महोदय, मैं कह रहा था कि नान-एलाइन्ड देशों का कोई एक गुट नहीं है, कोई उनका सेक्रेटरियट नहीं है। जो देश अपने को नान-एलाइन्ड कहते हैं वे नान-एलाइन्ड माने जाते हैं। जब सम्मेलन होता है तो उसके आधार पर दावत जाती है जो चाहते हैं वे आते हैं, जो नहीं आ सकते . . .

श्री सभापति : कितने होंगे अन्दाजे से?

श्री दिनेश सिंह : माननीय सदस्य जिस तरह से जवाब चाहते हैं वह मैं नहीं दे सकता क्योंकि वह सही नहीं होगा। मुझे तो सही जवाब देना है, सभापति महोदय।

जहाँ तक इस बात का सवाल है कि कितने देश दारेस्सलाम आए थे, जो वक्तव्य सदन के पटल पर रखा गया है उसमें देशों के नम्बर ही नहीं बल्कि उनके पूरे नाम भी दिए गए हैं कि कौन-कौन से देश वहाँ आए।

(Interruptions)

श्री निरंजन वर्मा : मैं आपका सरक्षण चाहता हूँ।

श्री सभापति : मैं आपकी मुतूगा, पहले उन्हें खत्म तो कर लेने दीजिए।

श्री दिनश सिंह : लगभग 72 देश ऐसे हैं सभापति महोदय, आप जानते हैं कि माननीय सदस्य ने सवाल किया था रोडेशिया के बारे में रोडेशिया का जिक्र दारुलमलाम में आया था। और उम के बाद में बातचीत हुई थी। जहाँ तक रेजोल्यूशन की बात है, यह सम्मेलन रेजोल्यूशन पास करने के लिए नहीं था। यह तो शिखर सम्मेलन का तजाम करने के लिए था और जहाँ तक रोडेशिया का सवाल है इस वक्त हम बोग जो संयुक्त राष्ट्र के रेजोल्यूशंस हैं उन को पूरा करने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। भारत ने जैसा कि माननीय सदस्य जानते हैं कि पूरी तरह यूनाइटेड नेशन्स के रेजोल्यूशन पर अमल किया है और श्री हिमाब से हम कोशिश करते हैं कि और देश भी उन पर अमल करें।

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : Sir, may I know if at Colombo and Dar-es-Salaam, a number of non-aligned countries suggested that the next Summit Conference be held somewhere in India? And if that suggestion was made, what was the attitude of the Government, and why was it not accepted?

SHRI DINESH SINGH : The Conference unanimously decided to hold the Conference in Lusaka. There was a suggestion by some delegations that the Conference might be held in India. But we did not wish to take any lead in the matter, and the Conference unanimously decided Lusaka.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : He has not replied to the part of the question. What was the attitude of the Government—whether they were prepared to hold it in India, or they declined it?

MR. CHAIRMAN : He said this.

*241. [The questioner (Shri Sitaram Jaipuria) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 31-33 infra.]

*242. [The questioner (Shri Dehiprasad Chattopadhyaya) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 33-34 infra.]

*243. [The questioner (Shri J. S. Tilak) was absent. For answer, vide col. 34 infra.]

TRIANGULAR POWER CONTEST IN INDIAN OCEAN

*244. SHRI A. D. MANI : Will the MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Seventies would witness a triangular power contest among the USA, the Soviet Union and China in the Indian Ocean area; and

(b) if so, what is the nature of the power contest that Government envisages?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M. R. KRISHNA) : (a) and (b) Government is aware of the increased sailings of foreign warships in the Indian Ocean area. This increased presence does not necessarily mean that a "triangular power contest" will ensue.

SHRI A. D. MANI : Sir, may I ask the Minister whether, in view of the fact of intrusion of three foreign powers in the Indian Ocean area, Government would take steps to increase our aircraft carriers strength and also submarine fleet, and whether any steps are taken in this direction? I do not want him to give all the details. I want from him the defence preparedness in the Indian Ocean area.

SHRI M. R. KRISHNA : We have got definite plan to strengthen our Navy. Most of the islands like Laccadives, Nicobar, (islands) are being strengthened and we are continuously increasing the naval and also modernised air-craft carriers.

SHRI A. D. MANI : May I ask the Ministers what steps the Government are taking in regard to the defence of the strategic islands of Andaman and Nicobar, which is more or less a preying ground for all the three foreign powers?

SHRI M. R. KRISHNA : I think I have already said that we have got plans and we are going ahead with our plans, and we are strengthening our naval base in the Andaman islands and Laccadives.