

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : वह कौन सा एस्पेक्ट है, यही तो हम जानना चाहते हैं।

SHRI R. T. PARTHASARATHY:

May I know that under no circumstances the Government of India would barter away any of her lawful rights to Pakistan with reference to the Farakka Barrage or other projects?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Yes.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA

REDDY: I would like to know whether it is not a fact that Pakistan is trying to influence other World Powers including Russia that this matter should be referred to international arbitration and, if so, what steps the Government are going to take to see that it is not referred to any international arbitration?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: What the Member is trying to ask is whether Pakistan is trying to create a kind of dispute out of this in which she may get other Powers interested. Perhaps Pakistan is doing it but our position is quite clear that there is no dispute on this issue and there is no question of any third Power coming in.

*205. [The Questioner (Shri S. K. laisliamfmyen) was absent. For Answer, vide col 1586 infra.]

REORGANISATION OF MINISTRIES

*206. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 70 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 20th February, 1969 and state:

(a) whether any final decision has been taken on the reorganisation of the Ministries on the lines suggested by the Administrative Reforms Commission :

(b) whether any steps are proposed to be taken for a better co-

ordination of the various Ministries; and

(c) whether Government propose for full utilisation of available talent in science and technology in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER. (SHRIMATI NANDINI SAT-PATHY): (a) and (b) As was pointed out in answer to the earlier question mentioned by the Hon'ble member some of the recommendations concerning the reorganisation of the Ministries were kept in view in making changes in the allocation of work among Ministries which were given effect some time back. The remaining recommendations are under detailed consideration.

(c) Yes, Madam, it is indeed Government's policy to provide for the maximum possible utilisation of available talent in the country in the field of science and technology.

SHRI* M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know from the Minister whether she feels the need for reorganising the economic Ministries on a more rational basis on the one side and for reorganising the Ministries of Social Services on the other hand and if she feels the necessity for such reorganisation, what steps are being taken in that direction?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI:

Certain recommendations have been made by the ARC and we kept them in view in the recent Cabinet changes. We are constantly looking into this matter. There are no specific proposals about this apart from trying to achieve much better co-ordination and more effective functioning. If the Hon'ble Member has any specific suggestion, I hope he will bring it to my notice.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether she shares this view

that science and technology have been relegated to a secondary position in the present set-up and if that view is supported, may I know whether she has any proposals for creating a Ministry of Science and Technology on a separate basis so that matters connected with science and modern technology can be handled in a proper manner?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: I do not think that it has been given a second place. We give it the greatest importance. The present Minister of Education is looking into this matter very deeply and seeing how to remove any difficulties or anything which may block progress. In fact recently he had a series of meetings with the Directors of the various laboratories which not only discussed programmes but also the question of younger scientists. It is proposed to have an Academic Council in each laboratory of which every scientist working there will be a member so that his views will be heard and he will have greater participation in its working. I am told that this will meet periodically and discuss scientific work so that all these young and old people, irrespective of rank, will have an opportunity to project their ideas.

SHRI B. K. KAUL: Will the Prime Minister kindly say if she has given any thought either suo tnotu or on the various recommendations of the ARC to the advisability of simplifying the pattern of the administrative machinery both in the Secretariat and outside with a view to putting an end to the huge drain on the State exchequer?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: There is no doubt that there is need for greater simplification. Certain aspects have been gone into by the ARC to make each Ministry effective. We are trying to look into this matter. We have inherited a particular system of administration which is not wholly attuned to the needs of the present day but on the other hand

I must say that we have been changing it. It is not as if the situation is static. It is changing. Many improvements have been made but I agree with the Member that there is room for greater improvement and we are looking into it.

श्री मानसिंह वर्मा : प्रधान मंत्री जी स्वयं इस बात को जानती हैं कि इतने वर्षों के प्रयास के पश्चात भी अभी तक पिछड़े वर्ग की समस्याएं बहुत भीषण रूप में हमारे सामने आ रही हैं और वे सुलझ नहीं सकी हैं, अस्पृश्यता अभी तक देश में बाकी है और इसी प्रकार से और जितनी समस्याएं पिछले वर्ग की हैं वे बराबर वैसे चल रही हैं। तो क्या प्रधान मंत्री जी इस वर्ग के लिए सोशल वेलफेयर का जो विभाग है उसके लिए अलग मंत्रालय बनाने की सोच रही हैं ?

श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी : केवल अलग मंत्रालय बनाने से यह जरूरी नहीं है कि काम ज्यादा अच्छा हो। उसका डिपार्टमेंट बिल्कुल अलग है, सारा सेट-अप अलग है। आपका शायद कहना यह है कि अलग मंत्री के नीचे हो। मेरा तो विचार नहीं है कि उससे ज्यादा काम हो सकेगा। आप ही लोग एतराज करते हैं कि मंत्रीगण की तादाद ज्यादा है।

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: May I know if pending the reorganisation of the Ministries and definitely after the reorganisation, the practice of breaking up Ministries and forming new Ministries by pooling together discordant departments only to suit particular individuals who take charge of the Ministry—this sort of practice—will stop henceforth?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: That practice does not exist and so there is no question of stopping it. The ARC has given certain recom-

mendations for putting together various Ministries. We went into this matter very carefully and we found that some of them would have become too large and unwieldy. Whatever changes have been made of putting together some departments are to ensure that they function more effectively.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: May I know from the Prime Minister if it is not a fact that India was the first country in the world to constitute a separate Ministry for Scientific Research and Prime Minister Nehru, when he went to Ceylon, even advised the Government there to have a separate Ministry of Science? Even Britain has embarked on the application of technology to various industries and agriculture and has made a separate Ministry of Technology. May I know if the Government have considered the problem of application of science and technology to the various Departments and felt that it cannot be fully implemented and full-time attention given unless a separate Ministry is created? What is the result of such thinking?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: I know the hon. Member is very interested in this subject and it comes up on, practically, every question day. It is indeed a most important subject. I do not know what he means by full-time attention.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: He is prepared to give full time.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: But very deep consideration is being given to this. We think that the Education Ministry is the right place for it because many of the other subjects are State subjects. This is one subject which has to be with the Centre and we thought that the place was under the Education Ministry.

*207. [The questioner (Shri Suraj I-rasad) was absent. For answer, vide cols 1586-1587 infra.]

†The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Krishna Kant.

TRAINING OF REBEL NAGAS IN CHINA AND RECOVERY OF ARMS FROM THEM

*208. SHRI R. P. SINHA:

SHRI KRISHAN KANT:† SHRI JAGAT NARAIN; SHRI DEORAO KRISHNA-RAO JADHAV; SHRI ARJUN ARORA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many rebel Nagas have so far gone to China;

(b) how many of them have returned after training in China;

(c) how many of them have so far been arrested;

(d) the details of the Chinese made arms so far recovered from the rebel Nagas; and

(e) whether Government have enquired into the manner in which the rebel Nagas obtained arms from China and other countries?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) It is not possible to give very precise figures. It was earlier estimated that about 4,000 Nagas had left for China. Some information now available would seem to indicate that the number of Nagas who had gone to China may be substantially less, but the present information will require to be carefully inquired into.

(b) About 900 are estimated to have re-entered.

(c) According to the latest information 284 China-returned persons have been arrested. Out of these, 33 claim themselves to be Burmese nationals and 3 to be Pakistanis.

(d) The Chinese arms recovered from the underground Nagas include mortars, rocket launchers, light machine guns, automatic rifles, submachine guns and pistols.

(e) The Chinese arms were handed over to the underground Nagas by the Chinese on completion of their