

that we should let these talks run their normal course.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : May I know whether the Naga Delegation wrote a letter to the Prime Minister that they want to enlarge the Peace Mission for further negotiation with some more foreign members in the Peace Mission?

SHRI DINESH SINGH : Yes, Sir. They had written to us and we have said that there could be no question of foreigners being in it.

(Several hon. Members stood up)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am afraid I will have to proceed to the next question.

SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS : Sir, one question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no. We are going very very slow.

SHRI JAGAT NARAIN : Sir, on a point of order; my name is there.

MR. CHAIRMAN : But so many questions have been put. There should be some limit. If you insist, I would let you put the question but I hope you will not insist.

SPECIAL PROGRAMME ON NETAJI'S BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

***3. DR. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any special programme on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose is broadcast from all stations of the All India Radio every year on his birth anniversary on the 23rd January; and

(b) if so, the nature of the programme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY) : (a) Some stations of L46RS/66—2

All India Radio broadcast special programmes every year on the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on the 23rd January.

(b) These programmes consist of talks, features, symposia, poems, readings from Netaji's writings as well as coverage in news bulletins and newsreels of the public functions held on the occasion.

DR. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA : May I know from which year this programme is being arranged from all Radio stations of India?

SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY : Prior to 1961 these programmes were noticed in all stations of All India Radio but after that it has been decided to have it every five years. So the next birthday of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose will be on 23rd January 1967.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA : In view of the fact that we have adopted an Indian National Calendar and the Gregorian Calendar plays only a secondary part in this country, may I know if there is any proposal before the Government of India to observe these anniversaries according to the Indian National Calendar instead of observing them on the basis of the Gregorian Calendar?

SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY : There is no such proposal.

श्री रामकुमार भुवालका : क्या मंत्री जी बतायेंगे कि नेता जी ने इतना बड़ा काम किया देश के लिये तो उसके लिये क्या ब्राडकास्टिंग की ही बात करेंगे और कोई नई बात नहीं करेंगे जिससे देश में उनका कुछ काम हो आगे ?

SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY : The main question is about broadcasting and so I just answered about it.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : It was stated by the hon. Deputy Minister that it was only once in five years that this anniversary programme was broadcast by All India Radio. Having regard to the work

and the leadership that was given by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, may I know why it should not be broadcast every year and why there should be a time lag of five years in between?

SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY : In view of the fact that a large number of such occasions are there to observe the birthdays of different leaders, this decision has been taken.

(Interruptions)

SHRI D. L. SEN GUPTA : Shame. Sir, she must withdraw.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : Sir, may I explain?

SHRI CHITTA BASU : She must withdraw. She said so many leaders were there . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, order.

SHRI D. L. SEN GUPTA : She must withdraw.

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHITTA BASU : It is disrespect to Netaji.

SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY : I did not mention anything about second line leader or anything like that. I am sorry if there has been any misunderstanding.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : May I clarify the position? Before 1961 we were taking note of every anniversary of all our leaders. Then the whole question was referred to the Central Programme Advisory Committee which came to the unanimous conclusion that for Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru—and subsequently Lal Bahadur Shastri's name was also added—notice should be taken for a full observance by the Radio itself. Apart from that in the case of each one of the leaders enumerated in the statement the programmes are taken note of. If special functions are held, they are taken note of

in the newsreels, etc. Apart from that, special programmes are arranged every five years for leaders like Rajendra Prasad, Govind Ballabh Pant and others. In the case of these three leaders, Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Lal Bahadur Shastri, celebrations are there every year.

SHRI G. MURAHARI : I would like to know from the Government whether they place Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on par with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Lal Bahadur Shastri or not because the whole country knows that probably Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose made a better contribution to the fight for independence than some of the national leaders who are sitting on the Treasury Benches today. Therefore I would like to know why the Government is placing Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in the category for whom programmes would be decided as and when they like on special occasions.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : We, on this side of the House, are not second to anyone else on the other side in our respect, admiration and the deepest appreciation of Netaji's contribution to our independence. We are behind none in this respect. But at the same time we referred this whole question to a highly representative body, the Central Programme Advisory Committee, before taking any decision. Comparisons will be very odious in such matters and it will be very difficult to say whether Dr. Rajendra Prasad's contribution was more or Govind Ballabh Pant's contribution was more or anybody else's contribution was more.

SHRI AWADHESHWAR PRASAD SINHA : Or Lokmanya Tilak's.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : Yes; or whether Lokmanya Tilak's contribution was more. Naturally we have got to have some arrangement and I can assure the House . . .

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, order. I pass on to the next question.

श्री राजनारायण : आपसे मुझको यह रिक्वेस्ट करनी है कि आज इस सारे राष्ट्रीय स्वतन्त्रता संग्राम का अपमान कर दिया माननीय मंत्री महोदया ने . . .

माननीय सदस्य : नहीं, नहीं।

श्री राजनारायण : नहीं, नहीं मत करो, बिलकुल कर दिया। Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose stands alone. नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र अकेला खड़ा है। नेताजी ने जिस ढंग की कुरबानी की भारत के लिए वैसी दूसरे की नहीं है।

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : On a point of order, Mr. Chairman . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have passed on to the next question.

श्री राजनारायण : आप चले गए दूसरे प्रश्न पर ?

SHRI CHITTA BASU : I have got only one small question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, I have passed on to the next question. I will not allow any more.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : It is very important.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please sit down ?

HON. MEMBERS : Obey the Chair.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : In that case you allow a 'Half-an-Hour' discussion on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why a 'Half-an-Hour' discussion ?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : We want a discussion on the policy adopted by All India Radio towards Netaji. We, on this side, feel that injustice is being done to Netaji. Let the hon. Minister ex-

plain why Netaji has been put in the second line and not in the first line ?

SHRI JAIRAMDAS DAULATRAM : May I say, Sir, that since the Chairman has called the next question, we should proceed to the next question ? The issue raised, though it is important, can be discussed shortly on some other occasion in some other way.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is a proposal.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Let there be a discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will consider that. Next question.

SETTLEMENT OF VIETNAM ISSUE

*4. SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of India propose to take any initiative for a peaceful settlement of the Vietnam issue; and

(b) if so, the details of such an initiative ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Government of India have been in contact with friendly countries which are interested in the Vietnam and are watching the situation which continues to be serious.

SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN : There have been reports in the American press that India has given a commitment to the United States of America not to make any statement or move on Vietnam, which will embarrass America. Has any such commitment been given ?

SHRI DINESH SINGH : No, Sir, and I would not advise the hon. Member to go by the American press.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA : For taking any initiative, it is necessary that India must have some influence with the powers concerned in the dispute on the Vietnam issue