

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY : May I know, Sir, whether it has come to the notice of the Government that Pakistan has replenished her war losses and today it is much stronger than what it was before the Indo-Pakistan conflict began in September 1965 ?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: It is a fact that Pakistan has been making frantic efforts to acquire arms from all possible sources, although it is very difficult to say categorically as to whether they are stronger as compared to the time when they started the last conflict.

CHINESE FORCES CONCENTRATION IN TIBET

SHRI CHITTA BASU: May I know whether the Government is aware of the fact that the Chinese are mobilising forces in Gilgit and Ladakh areas?

Chinese troops or holding of massive military exercises by them in South Tibet has recently come to their notice.

(b) Government are keeping careful watch over the situation and will take such measures to protect our security as may be called for.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: May I know whether the Government is aware of the fact that the Chinese are mobilising forces in Gilgit and Ladakh areas?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Sir, these matters have been referred to previously also and my senior colleague has already answered these questions.

SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: There are alarming reports in the newspapers that the Chinese have improved their logistic position and there is apprehension in the public mind that China may attack India any time, maybe before the monsoon. The Government has always replied that it is aware of this and it is taking all possible steps. May I know whether the Government intends appointing a Committee of Members of Parliament and take them into confidence so that they can satisfy themselves that there is preparedness to meet the Chinese menace?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: There is no doubt that their offensive preparedness has improved both in the matter of the Army as well as in the matter of communications. But, Sir, the proposal made by the hon. Member cannot be accepted. I do not think the House would expect the Government to constitute such a committee to go into this. With regard to the size and concentration of troops, in fact, some two or three days back the Defence Minister did give some idea about the size of the Chinese Army in the Tibet area. They have also troops in Sinkiang, Chinghai and Szechwan from where they can deploy in the border areas within a few days. The Government of India is watching this development and is taking all the necessary steps.

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report appearing in the London "Observer" dated the 17th April, 1966 to the effect that (i) the Chinese are holding massive military exercises in South Tibet, (ii) that movement of a considerable number of troops has been made under cover of darkness, (iii) that apart from reservists, the Chinese have 18 to 20 divisions facing India and finally (iv) that it will not take the Chinese more than 4 days to move their troops against the Indian border; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) While Government are aware about the concentration of Chinese troops and their offensive posture on our northern borders, no report regarding large scale movement of

The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Chitta Basu.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: May I know if the Government of India have made efforts to ascertain whether China has been able to develop tactical nuclear weapons, a system which has almost become part of the conventional weapons system. If so, may I know how the Government propose to meet this sort of challenge?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : These tactical and conventional nuclear weapons have different connotations in different countries. It is a question of distances to be covered and the size of the forces to be used. I do not think at the present moment China has started making use of these tactical nuclear weapons. Anyway, I would like to emphasise this one aspect that the Chinese threat is there but we should not create any panic about it by saying that they are likely to come before the monsoon or after the monsoon. It is really a propaganda that the Chinese are interested in. I would like to tell hon. Members that the real threat of Chinese today is from conventional weapons. I think we will have to take note of that particular aspect. The real and immediate threat is from conventional weapons.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question.

नेता जी के बारे में समाचार

*284. श्री राम कुमार भुवालका : क्या वंदेशिक कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 7 मार्च, 1966 के हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स में "नेताजी अभी तक जीवित हैं" शीर्षक से छपे समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इस सम्बन्ध में कोई जानकारी प्राप्त की जा रही है, और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसका ज्वोरा क्या है ?

NEWS ABOUT NETAJI

♦284. SHRI R. K. BHUWALKA Will the Minister of EXTERNA! AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attentio has been drawn to a news item appear ing in the "Hindustan Times" dated th 7th March, 1966 under the captioi "Netaji still alive";

(b) if the answer to part (a) abov be in the affirmative whether any in formation is being collected in this re gard; and

(c) if so, what are the detail thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNA! AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Enquiry CommLtte which was appointed in 1956 to invea tigate the facts relating to the reporte! death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bos had established that Netaji had actuall; died in an air accident in 1945. Th Government have accepted these find ings and have not come across any fur ther information that would contradic the findings of the Enquiry Committee.

‡[वंदेशिक कार्य मंत्री (सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह) :
(क) जी हां ।

(ख) और (ग) नेताजी सुभाषचन्द्र बोस की कथित मृत्यु से संबद्ध तथ्यों की पड़-ताल करने के लिए 1956 में जो जांच समिति नियुक्त की गई थी, उसने यह स्थिर किया था कि नेताजी वास्तव में 1945 की एक हवाई दुर्घटना में मर गए थे । सरकार ने इस निष्कर्ष को स्वीकार कर लिया है और ऐसी कोई और सूचना नहीं मिली है जिससे जांच समिति के निष्कर्ष का खंडन होता हो ।]

श्री राम कुमार भुवालका : क्या मंत्री जी बतायेंगे कि विगत कई वर्षों से बार-बार नेताजी सुभाषचन्द्र बोस के लिये यह रिपोर्ट