

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Vajpayee.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: What H wrong in sitting on the back seat of a motor cycle?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Arora, I have called Mr. Vajpayee.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: If the hon. Minister thinks that this particular officer was guilty of any unbecoming conduct, why merely was his resignation accepted? Why no action was taken against him?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: The question was not one of removing the officer from service or dismissing him. The question was, when the question of promotion came, then, looking to his conduct, his behaviour, making a general assessment of the officer, it was thought that he was not yet mature enough for that higher promotion to a responsible post. Therefore, as a protest, it seems, he resigned. There is no question of the Government having terminated his service.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Has the Government addressed an enquiry to find out whether riding on the pillion of a scooter driven by a Tehsildar by the officer in question was an offence? What is the idea of Government? When do they think it proper for an officer to ride on the pillMon of a scooter. Is it permissible for an I.A.S, officer to sit on the pillion of a scooter only when an officer of equal rank or a superior officer, say, a Secretary, drives the scooter, and not if anybody else of a lower rank drives it?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mani, this is spinning too fine. Next question.

*383. [The questioner (Shri Bhupesh Gupta) was absent. For answer, vide col. 2469 infra.]

*384. [The questioners (Shri D. Thengari and Shri G. K. Kapoor) were absent. For answer^ vide col, 2469 infra.]

♦385. [The questioner (Shri U. S. Dugal) was absent. For answer, vide col. 2470 infra.]

*386. [Transferred to 9th December, 1964.]

MERGER OF GOA

["SHRI SITARAM JAIFURIA: j Pt. BHAWANIPRASAD { TIWARY: [SHRI MULKA GOVINDA •387.-4 REDDY: SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR; SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY: SHRI SANKAR PRATAP SINGH DEV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government of India has taken any decision with regard to the merger of Goa with an adjoining State;

(b) if so, what is the decision; and

(c) whether the Government of Goa was consulted in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Government's policy in the matter was stated by the late Prime Minister while answering supplementaries to Question No. 603 in the Lok Sabha on the 16th March, 1964 as follows:

"The Government of India feel that the present is not the time to do it. Whether it is desirable or not desirable is another question. It is not the time to do it, soon after the liberation of Goa, the elections there, etc. In any event it requires

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Pt. Bhawaniprasad Tiwary.

some time to quieten down, for feelings not to be excited there. There is a very strong party there—may be it is not a majority but just nearly half—which is very much opposed to merger. So, raising the question now creates difficulties, creates trouble and diverts people's attention from the work of consolidation in Goa, and it is better for a few years to elapse. Then the matter may be taken up and let them decide as they choose. The Government of India does not see any need for any hurry in this matter. It is immaterial whether it is done after five years' or ten years' time."

The Government have not reviewed this matter since then.

पंडित भवानी प्रसाद तिवारी : क्या माननीय मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या मन्त्रिमण्डल में इस नीति को लेकर मतभेद हैं और इसीलिये एक निर्णय पर नहीं पहुंचा जा सका ?

श्री जयसुखलाल हाथी : मन्त्रिमण्डल में कोई मतभेद इसके बारे में नहीं है ।

पंडित भवानी प्रसाद तिवारी : अभी शासन की ओर से यह वक्तव्य दिया गया था कि इस स्थिति पर पुनर्विचार किया जा रहा है, तो क्या कृपा करके यह बताया जायेगा कि कहां तक विचार पहुंचा है और वह कौनसी स्थिति है जिस पर पुनर्विचार किया जायेगा ?

"The Government have not reviewed this matter since then."

लेकिन यह कोई ऐसा मामला तो है नहीं कि कोई बात कर ली और खत्म हो गया । जब तक कोई निर्णय न हो, तब तक यह मामला विचाराधीन रहता है ।

श्री ए० बी० बाजपेयी मन्त्री महोदय ने अभी कहा कि गोवा के भविष्य के प्रश्न पर

मन्त्रिमण्डल में कोई मतभेद नहीं है । क्या यह सच नहीं है कि रेल मन्त्री श्री पाटिल ने पंजिम में यह वक्तव्य दिया था कि अगले दस वर्ष तक गोवा को किसी भी निकटवर्ती प्रान्त में मिलाने का निर्णय नहीं किया जायेगा, जब कि रक्षा मन्त्री श्री चव्हाण ने इस सम्बन्ध के किसी भी निर्णय से अपनी अनभिज्ञता प्रकट की ? क्या मन्त्री महोदय इसे भविक्य का नमूना समझते हैं ?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: I may reply in English here. If the hon. Member reads the statement which was made in the Lok Sabha by the late Prime Minister, he said:

"The Government of India feel that the present is not the time to do it. Whether it is desirable or not desirable is another question. It is not the time to do it, soon after the liberation of Goa, the elections there, etc. In any event it requires some time to quieten down, for feelings not to be excited there. There is a very strong party there, may be it is not a majority but just nearly half of which is very much opposed to merger. So raising the question now creates difficulties, creates trouble and diverts people's attention from the work of consolidation in Goa, and it is better for a few years to elapse. Then the matter may be taken up, and let them decide as they choose. The Government of India does not see any need for any hurry in this matter. It is immaterial whether it is done after five years' or ten years' time."

Sir, this was the statement made by the late Prime Minister. After that I went to Goa in my official capacity. They were going to place a Resolution before the Goa Assembly for merger of Goa with Maharashtra. I discussed the matter in my official capacity with them and requested that before this was done it would be better if things were discussed with the Prime Minister and the Home Minister of the

Government of India. So the Resolution was not placed before the Assembly. Subsequently, Shri P. C. Patil went there and he made a statement. But he did not make that statement in his official capacity. (Interruptions) No, he made it as the leader of a political organisation.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, whether any advice was given to the Goa Assembly not to take up this matter? As is prescribed in the Constitution, the constitutional right is of the Goa Assembly to consider this question and make their recommendation to Parliament.

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: No advice was given to the Assembly as such. The Government of India cannot give an advice to the Assembly but, as I said, I had discussed this question with the Chief Minister of Goa and advised him, or requested him that he might first discuss this with the Prime Minister, and then he said that he would take it up with his colleagues and the members of his party.

श्री देवकीचंदन नारायण : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि गोवा के प्रश्न के सम्बन्ध में महाराष्ट्र राज्य के चफ मिनिस्टर के साथ आपका यानी मंत्रालय गवर्नमेंट के साथ कोई पत्र व्यवहार हुआ ? यदि कोई पत्र-व्यवहार हुआ है तो आपने उस सम्बन्ध में क्या राय बतलाई ?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: I think hon. Members of the House all know that this is rather a question which is an important one and a delicate one. The present ruling party in Goa wants that it should be merged with Maharashtra. The Maharashtra members of Goa also would like that it should be merged. But because this is a question which is rather delicate and because half the members of the Assembly or half the population is on one side.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Not one half.

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: Nearly half or roughly half. Whatever it is, because of the nature of the question it is better to consult them and then bring about an amicable settlement rather than impose a decision like that. So the whole question is a delicate one. I may even here inform the House—of course they may be aware of it—that only last week there was a Resolution in the Lok Sabha by some private Member and I requested that it may be adjourned because of the delicate nature of the question. This is unnecessarily rousing the sentiments of the people. It will be quietly discussed and some settlement arrived at.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: The hon. Minister just now stated that Shri S. K. Patil made that statement in his capacity as the leader of a political party and not as a member of the Central Cabinet. May I ask whether the Cabinet has afterwards discussed this statement of his, and whether any member of the Cabinet can say things outside and then state that he made it as the leader of a political party and make another statement in his capacity as a Central Minister, whether it is permissible for him to do so and, if so, with what result? Was this aspect of the matter discussed by the Cabinet? If so what is the result?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: The result may be what it has been. But I had definitely enquired of the Railway Minister—because I had to consult him—and the Defence Minister also, and at the Government level, up to that time this matter was not discussed. Subsequently we had discussed it.

SHRIMATI SHAKUNTALA PARAN-JPYE: Does the Government think that by waiting for even ten years this problem is going to be less delicate and that the sentiments of the people are going to subside, or will they get roused?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: It may be. If it is possible to solve this question amicably, the sentiments may not be roused. But if proper opportunity is not given to the persons concerned to express their views, it may be that sentiments may be roused.

SHRIMATI SHAKUNTALA PARAN-JPYE: Was that not done at the time of the election?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: That is exactly the point. Let those sentiments of the elections subside. And then in a calm moment let us discuss it.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: The hon. Minister stated that he advised the Goa Assembly. Did he advise the Goa Chief Minister to go and consult the Prime Minister in the matter and if so, what was the reaction of the Goa Chief Minister on this particular issue?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: Sir, I have already replied to that question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has already given his reply.

SHRI A. D. MANI: May I ask the hon. Minister if I would be right in inferring that the attitude of the Government is that on the basis of the present elections in Goa, they would not be able to come to a decision and that they should reconsider the matter after the next elections?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: As I said, Sir, this is a question which is being considered.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: I felt very happy with the statement placed before the House. That vindicated the stand taken by the late Prime Minister. The last sentence there reads like this: "The Government have not reviewed this matter since then." So, the Government is committed to the stand taken by the late respected Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal. But |

instead of saying that, they seem to be wavering, according to the statement that the Home Minister has just now made. There is absolutely no reason why they should be wavering and . . . ~

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is this a question?

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: The question is: The Government is committed to . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not a question. It is a statement.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: I want to know and I want a categorical statement from the Minister saying that the Government is definitely committed to the stand taken by the late Prime Minister. I do not want him to take a different attitude. I want his attitude with regard to the statement of the late Prime Minister that for ten years it shall not be disturbed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a statement.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI: The Government would do exactly what the late Prime Minister would have done in the circumstances.

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: I would only like to say that this is exactly what I said. Let these sentiments settle down and then we can discuss it quietly and calmly.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Let ten years elapse.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It takes time to settle down. Shri Gurupada Swamy.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY: I would like to know from the hon. Minister (a) Whether the Konkani speaking people of Goa are in a majority and whether Konkani is a dialect and not a language and . . .

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Not a dialect of the Kannada language.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY: And whether it is a fact that the issue of the merger with Maharashtra was not an issue at the time of the elections, and thirdly and lastly, Sir ...

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: How many questions?

SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY: ... whether this has become a bone of contention between Maharashtra and Mysore recently.

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: It is exactly this question which the hon. Member has asked which is relevant. That is why I counsel patience.

GUJARAT REFINERY

•388. SHRI RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state the scheduled date of completion of the Gujarat refinery project and the estimated cost thereof when finally completed?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR): The first million tonne capacity of the refinery is expected to be commissioned by about March, 1965 and the second million tonne at about 6 months later. The cost of the refinery proper is estimated to be Rs. 22 crores. Up to Rs. 8 crores more will be spent on related facilities like Power House, water supply, township, etc.

SHRI RAM SINGH: May I know if Dr. Banney, an expert from France on petro-chemical industry, has reported that there should be development of petro-chemical industries in that area? And if so, what action has been taken by the Government?"

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: It is intended to develop a petro-chemical complex in that area and for that discussions are continuing.

SHRI C. D. PANDE: In view of the fact that crude oil extracted from the

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wells in Gujarat at present is being fed to the Bombay refinery, after this refinery goes into operation, what quantity of crude oil will be imported from outside? May I know whether we will be self-sufficient in that also?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: At present roughly about 1 million tons of crude oil is being fed to the Bombay refinery. But we expect to increase the production of crude oil in Gujarat as soon as the Koyali refinery goes into operation. Therefore, the requirements of Koyali will be met in full and if there is any surplus it will go to feed the Bombay refinery. If not, we will continue to import crude oil as before.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know if any foreign assistance has been obtained for building this refinery and if so, how much and from what source?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: This refinery is being built with Soviet assistance. The Soviet Government has offered credit up to Rs. 10 crores for this project.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: May I ask if any proposal is under the consideration of the Government to place this refinery in the charge of the Indian Oil Corporation in the near future?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: It will naturally be a part of the Indian Oil Corporation.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: May I ask whether any negotiations are going on with any foreign countries for the purpose of starting petro-chemical industries in the neighbourhood of Koyali, and if so, what are the terms?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: Sir, the discussions are continuing. We have had two specific offers so far, one from a British-American concern, and the other from a primarily American concern, and both these are under consideration. The terms I cannot say at this moment since they are under negotiation.