

RAJYA SABHA

*Wednesday, the 25th April, 1962/the 5th
Vaisakha, 1884 (Saka)*

The House met at eleven of the clock,
MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MEMBER SWORN SHRI D. Y.

Pawar (Maharashtra)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*61. [*For answer, vide cols. 568—71
infra.*]

**DISCUSSION ON BRITAIN'S ENTRY INTO THE
EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY AT THE
COMMONWEALTH P.M.S' CONFERENCE**

*62. SHRI BABUBHAI CHINAI: Will the
PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to
hold the Commonwealth Prime Ministers'
Conference in the near future;

(b) if so, what specific matters are
proposed to be discussed at the con-
ference; and

(c) what stand Government pro-
pose to take at the Conference
regarding Britain's entry into the
European Economic Community?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON) : (a) and (b) I
would refer the hon. Member to the
Statement in the Rajya Sabha, on the
19th April, 1962, in regard to the
proposed meeting of the Commonwealth
Prime Ministers to be held from the 10th
September 1962.

(c) Government's stand on the question
of Britain's entry into the European
Common Market has been made known
already. We have shown our great
concern over the possible set-back to our
export trade as well as the termination of
preferential arrangements between us
and the

180 RS.—1.

U.K.. w» nave also said that we would
acquiesce in these matters i' we are
compensated by a substantial
liberalization of import policies in the
Common Market as a whole and by
suitable transitional arrangements so that
the benefits of preferential treatment
disappear only in slow, gradual stages.

SHRI BABUBHAI CHINAI: May I know
whether the U.K. Government has kept
the Government of India informed of the
negotiations that it is having with the
E.C.M. countries?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, I do
not know whether the U.K. Government
has kept us informed, but we have got
our representative in Brussels who keeps
us informed about the developments
taking place in Europe.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Has Government in
its representations to the U.K. at any time
made it clear that their present policy
regarding the E.C.M. will weaken the
Commonwealth link?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Yes, Sir;
this has been brought to the attention of
the U.K. Government and I think a
statement has also been made in this
House by the Finance Minister regarding
the implications of the U.K. Government's
entry into the European Common Market.

SHRI N. C. KASLIWAL: The hon.
Minister said just now that the reactions of
the Government of India have been
conveyed to the Government of the
United Kingdom with regard to
liberalisation and all other things. May I
know what has been the stand of the
Government of the U.K. in this respect?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, they
have made a preliminary survey of the
possible effects of such an entry on the
Commonwealth trade and, in fact, the
ground-work has already been prepared.
That is why the Commonwealth Prime
Ministers' Conference is called on the
10th of September. The hon. House will
notice that this will also include the

Finance or Trade Ministers, so that all possible implications could be examined there.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: May I know if the Government of the U.K. is attempting to secure, what is called, Associate Membership to all the Commonwealth countries there?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I have no information, Sir.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: May I, Sir, with your permission, ask whether it is a fact that if no preferential treatment is given to India by the existing Six in the Common Market, the Indian trade is likely to suffer to the extent of 25 per cent, abroad, particularly with Great Britain?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Well, Sir, we have brought to the notice of the U.K. Government all the implications thereof and they have promised very sympathetic consideration. I would not like to disclose the percentage in different commodities.

SHRI BABUBHAI CHINAI: May I know exactly what the findings of these implications are?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Sir, we have made it abundantly clear that if certain relaxations are not made in favour of countries like India, our export trade is going to be grievously hurt.

PANDIT S. S. N. TANKHA: What is the attitude of the E.C.M. countries in their negotiations with Great Britain regarding the relaxations necessary for this country?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: So far as our knowledge goes, some direct contacts with the Six as well as our contacts with the U.K. Government have shown that they have appreciated our Stand and our anxiety.

STUDY TEAM FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

*63. SHRI BABUBHAI CHINAI: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have appointed a Study Team to ensure that development schemes in the Third Five Year Plan are implemented according to schedule;

(b) if so, what are the recommendations of the Study Team; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

(SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA):

(a) No, Sir. But a number of steps are being taken in pursuance of the recommendations made in the Third Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: Sir, in view of the importance attached to the implementation of Plan projects, does the Government not think it necessary to appoint a permanent machinery to see to the execution of the Plans instead of just carrying out the recommendations of the Planning Commission in the Third Plan?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: Sir, the recommendations of the Planning Commission are being carried out and are intended to be carried out through various types of machinery. It cannot be just one machinery doing all that job. The Planning Commission itself has certain responsibilities in the matter, but mainly it is the Ministry and the projects concerned, and certain recommendations have been made as to how they can fulfil those responsibilities more effectively.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: Are Government satisfied, Sir, that the existing arrangements are adequate to see to the effective implementation of Plans in the light of our experience, especially during the two Plan periods?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: There was a feeling that the implementation had not been satisfactory and therefore a new set of recommendations has been included in the