

CRITICISM OF LAOS COMMISSION'S DECISIONS BY CONSUL GENERAL OF NORTH VIETNAM

*153. **SHRI A. C. GILBERT:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that speeches were exchanged between the Consul General of North Vietnam in India and the representatives of seven public organisations in the premises of the Consulate on 22nd July, 1961 in which the majority decisions of the International Commission on Laos, of which India is the Chairman, were criticised; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above is in the affirmative, whether the Consul General's action is in accordance with the diplomatic conventions and whether Government have taken any steps in this connection?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Yes. The speeches delivered on this occasion appear to have been in continuation of the North Vietnam Campaign against a majority decision of the International Commission on Vietnam and not on Laos, to investigate complaints concerning acts alleged to be abetted by one party against the other which may be detrimental to the peace and security of Vietnam.

(b) The Consul General's action does not fit in with the diplomatic conventions.

The Consul-General of North Vietnam was sent for in connection with the propaganda that the Consulate General was making of late, and told that we expected all diplomatic missions in our country not to indulge in any propaganda against the Government of India and also strictly to observe the rule that they should not openly be critical of Governments or countries with which we have friendly relations.

SHRI A. C. GILBERT: Will the Government circularise all the Embassies

stating that they would not like controversial activities by the diplomatic officials in Bharat?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: No, Sir. It is not done. We approach them and inform them of our opinion when any particular occasion arises.

NEUTRALITY OF LAOS

*154. **SHRI A. C. GILBERT:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made some proposals to the Royal Government of Laos about Laotian neutrality and if so, what are those proposals; and

(b) how the Royal Government of Laos has reacted to the Indian proposals?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) and (b) The Government of India have made no proposals to the Royal Governments of Laos on Laotian neutrality or on any matters relating to the present conflict in Laos. When active civil war broke out in Laos in December last, the Government of India approached the two Co-Chairmen of the Geneva Conference (United Kingdom and Soviet Union) with a proposal that the International Control Commission should be re-convened. Eventually, after protracted negotiations between the Co-Chairmen, a Conference of 14 nations was convened in Geneva, to attempt to find a solution of the Laotian crisis; and the International Control Commission, consisting of Canada, India and Poland, was re-convened and sent to Vientiane on the authority of the Co-Chairmen, to supervise the cessation of hostilities, which had been agreed to by the conflicting factions in Laos.

The Conference in Geneva is proceeding with its deliberations. India is participating in these deliberations. Certain proposals have been placed before the Geneva Conference by the Indian delegation, which together with

other proposals made by the other participants are under discussion.

From the above it will be seen that there was no occasion for the Government of India to make any proposals to the Government of Laos, as such.

BORDER TALKS BETWEEN CHINA AND PAKISTAN

*155. SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have sought clarification from the Government of Pakistan about Pakistan's reported move to demarcate the 'Common Border' with China; and

(b) if so, what is the reply received from the Government of Pakistan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Pakistan have declined to provide the required clarification.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY: May I know whether it has been sufficiently made known to the Government of Pakistan that the holding of any talks by that Government with China on this question will be considered by the Government of India as a hostile and vindictive act?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: The whole object of sending a memorandum to them was this, to make it clear to them what our position is with regard to this matter.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, I would like to know what the Pakistan Government had stated in their reply while declining to supply us the information. What is their stand when not supplying the information that we asked for?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: They simply said that a clarification to satisfy us could not be given.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: May I know, Sir, whether any protest has been made to China with regard to the entering into negotiations with Pakistan on this matter?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are concerned with Pakistan.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: May I say a word as to what Pakistan's attitude has been? I might say that China has been informed of this. Now, the Pakistan attitude has been this, that this has nothing to do with India, because that territory, according to them, belongs to them, because it is part of the Jammu and Kashmir State which is supposed to belong to them, according to them, and therefore it is, they think, their territory and it does not concern India.

U.N. SECRETARY-GENERAL'S DEMAND FOR MORE INDIAN TROOPS FOR CONGO

*156. { SHRI M. S. GURUPADA
SWAMY†:
SHRI N. SRI RAMA
REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the United Nations Secretary-General has requested Government for 500 more Indian troops for the Congo; and

(b) if so, whether Government have agreed to the request of the United Nations Secretary-General?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No decision has yet been taken. In view of the changed political situation in the Congo as a result of the formation of the new Government, it is being considered whether there is still any need of sending additional troops.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri M. S. Gurupada Swamy.