

SHRI MULKA GOVIND A KEDDY: Is it a fact, Sir, that the Observer Group had stated clearly and unequivocally that there was no interference by the United Arab Republic in the affairs of the Lebanon?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: No, Sir. It could not say that, and in fact, it was not in a position to say that. What it did say in its earlier report was that to the best of its belief no arms had been sent. That is what it said, which is a different thing from what the hon. Member's question refers to. At that time they were not in full possession of the border. So they could not make a positive statement. Later they occupied the rest of the border too, and it may be said now that any transit of arms across the border is insignificant, if at all. But there are other ways which are often referred to, such as the use of radio and other things. About them, of course, the Commission has not reported.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: May I know, Sir, whether the American marines which had come there to support an unpopular regime are in any way obstructing the activities of the U.N. Observer Group?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: No, Sir. We have not heard of any obstruction to anybody. So far as we know, the American marines are camped on the sea-side and live rather an isolated life.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: What is the position in the report in regard to the infiltration of outsiders in the Lebanon, as was alleged by the Lebanese authorities?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I thought I answered that question. They found that after their coming in no marked infiltration was visible. As they spread out their activities—the Group's activities—this became less and less. But there might have been—in fact probably there was—i

previous to their coming in, some kind of infiltration, but after that it apparently was checked.

INDO-JAPANESE AGREEMENT OF PRICE OF IRON ORE

*388. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state how far the new agreement with Japan on the price of iron ore to be supplied to that country is likely to affect India's interests in regard to her export earnings?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI N. KANUNGO) : On the whole, the effect will be reasonably satisfactory.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the new agreement has stipulated a price-structure which is about ten shillings lower than the price demanded by India?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: No, Sir. The difference between the last price and the present price is four shillings.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, how long the agreement is going to remain in force?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: It is valid for a year with the clause that if the steel prices increase, the prices may be increased by agreement.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, why this lower price-structure was agreed to?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: It is not so much lower. It is only four shillings—and considering the lowering of demand in the world market, this was considered to be a good price.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, whether Japan has agreed to supply any technical know-how to India in respect of mines' development?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: This agreement is straight sale irrespective of other agreements.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: Is it a fact that in this agreement no provision is made for carrying this ore in Indian ships and may I know whether any complaints have been made by the Indian shipping concerns about the lack of such a provision?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: No. The price is on f.o.b. basis and Indian shipping will be used as and when available.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: May I know, Sir, if the Government have had any negotiations with other countries in the matter of price of iron ore; and, if so, with which countries, and what is the price offered by them?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: This contract is offered to Japan. We have contracts with other countries and the price revision we will take up later, and considering the price which Japan has offered we hope that the prices will not be much lower in other countries.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: What is the price agreed upon?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Eighty shillings.

"INDIA 1958" EXHIBITION

*399. SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of work so far done on "India 1958" Exhibition; and

(b) whether it would be possible to hold the Exhibition by the scheduled date?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA): (a) The allotment of space to participants has been completed, and construction work is progressing.

(b) Despite the vagaries of the weather and the shortness of time, we are doing our best and it is hoped that the Exhibition will open on the scheduled date.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: May I know, Sir, whether it has been notified to all the participants in the exhibition that a delay might be occurring as far as the scheduled date is concerned?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: I have said, every effort is being made to open the exhibition on 1st October.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, what will be the total expenditure of the Government of India on this exhibition "India 1958"?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Very rough estimates have been prepared and it is expected that in all, including capital expenditure, about Rs. 50 lakhs will be spent. But most of it will be recovered in the form of ground rent and other charges to be paid by the exhibitors.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, if foreign countries are also participating in this exhibition?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: No, Sir. It is purely a national exhibition in which the articles produced in India will be exhibited. Of course, if there is only an assembling of certain plant and machinery here and some components are imported from abroad, the same will be entitled to be exhibited.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, whether goods produced by the village industries or small scale industries will also be exhibited in this exhibition?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Various Boards under this Ministry have booked space in this exhibition.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: May I know, Sir, whether space is allotted