

of the Viet-Nam Commission, General Tara Singh Bal, is supposed to represent us symbolically in Laos and he has the right to convene a meeting of the Laos Commission whenever he thinks it is necessary.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It looks like a sentry symbolically existing by going into sleep. I would like to know whether the Prime Minister would agree that the continuance of the functions of the Commission operates as a kind of deterrent to any possible actions of violation although I agree that the Commission itself cannot stop such violations.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: The functions of the Commission so far as Laos was concerned were almost entirely over. The functions in relation to the adjoining countries remain and it could not be wound up according to us till the Viet-Nam problems were also solved. Therefore the question of carrying on any functions does not arise because there was no function in Laos left.

SHRI H. D. RAJAH: What were the terms of the compromise that was communicated to our Government?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: As I stated there is no question of any terms of a compromise; nobody referred to it in rather loose language as a compromise. This matter was dealt with by the Commission and the Commission passed a resolution, our representative agreeing to it. Obviously we were kept informed of these developments and we agreed to it. Now, it is for the Commission to take action.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: My reading of the Geneva Agreement is this that nowhere it lays down or contemplates the discontinuance of the functions, much less suspension, till all other agreements have been carried out and the two other Commissions also have completed their work. Now,

Sir, how would the hon. Minister reconcile this step that has been taken by the Commission with the broad framework of the principles laid down in the Geneva Agreement?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Unfortunately, the two Co-Chairmen appointed by the Geneva Agreement do not wholly share the hon. Member's opinion about it. What am I to do?

PROJECTS TO BE POSTPONED OR ABANDONED DURING THE SECOND PLAN PERIOD

*260. **DR. R. B. GOUR:** Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the projects that are proposed to be postponed or abandoned during the Second Plan period; and

(b) what is the cost of such projects?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI S. N. MISHRA): (a) and (b). The subject is still under examination.

DR. R. B. GOUR: Is it under consultation with the State Governments concerned also, Sir?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: We have held a number of discussions with the Central Ministers and from the beginning of September we are going to hold discussions with the State Planning and Finance Ministers.

DR. R. B. GOUR: Has the Planning Ministry consulted the Parliament also in this regard because the Plan and the projects have been accepted and endorsed by Parliament?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: We are soon going to have a meeting of the Consultative Committee in which the appraisal document would figure prominently.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: We have now come to the hard core of the Plan

and according to this hard core have certain projects not been abandoned?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: What is the suggestion? That in the hard core of the Plan certain projects are going to be dropped?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Have not decisions already been taken to drop certain projects from the hard core of the Plan?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: In fact we have expressed our determination to stand by the hard core of the Plan and implement it.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: What happened between the original Plan and the hard core? Obviously, certain projects had to be dropped out and I would like to know what those projects are.

MR. CHAIRMAN: First of all he asked the question whether any projects have been abandoned from the hard core and now he asks whether any projects have been dropped between the original Plan and the hard core.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: My original question was also the same that according to the hard core some of the original projects should have been dropped out and what are those projects?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: The question, I am afraid, is not quite clear. If the hon. Member's idea is that some of the projects in the hard core . . .

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Outside the hard core.

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: All that would depend upon our examination. We are examining the resource position and we shall try to fit in as many projects outside the hard core as possible. And we had in fact in the last meeting of the National Development Council decided that the total outlay

should be maintained at Rs 4,800 crores, but in view of the assessment of the resources then available it was felt that it should be divided into two parts.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, the matter is a bit more serious than meets the eye.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You ask a question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am asking a question but to make it intelligible and so that you may not have to repeat it—sometimes you have to explain to the Ministers and it is only to minimise your efforts—I give a little background. If you like question form, I can do it. May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that the Five Year Plan was placed before Parliament and Parliament discussed it and endorsed it and whether any alteration in the Plan or giving up of any projects in the Plan without prior consultation of Parliament would be tantamount to violation of the directives of Parliament and the decision and Resolution of Parliament? I would like to know the position from the Government because everybody seems to be violating this.

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: There is no intention to by-pass Parliament. In fact we shall take Parliament into confidence at every stage and when the picture becomes clear after our examination, possibly by the beginning of November we shall place the entire picture before Parliament.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know whether it is a fact that some Ministers of the Government of India make statements about curtailments in the Plan and announce curtailments in the Plan irrespective of the opinion of Parliament after Parliament has passed the Plan and whether it is in consonance with the practices that are followed in matters which are approved of by a Resolution of Parliament?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: The hon. Member is taking a somewhat exaggerated view of the situation. Nothing of that sort has happened. A Plan is not a fixed rigid Plan. The very idea of planning is that it is a dynamic, growing, changing Plan and if any vital change is made in it or even if small changes are made in it, Parliament has to be informed but broadly speaking Parliament is not concerned with minor adjustments which have to be made from time to time in any Plan. It is quite impossible for Parliament to function, if I may say so, as a big Planning Commission sitting daily to confer about the minor changes in the Plan, to confer with the States because the States are concerned. But Parliament is concerned with the basic policies in the Plan, with the major things undertaken in the Plan, with the broad approach; and undoubtedly it would be wrong for Government or the Planning Commission to do anything affecting those basic policies and the broad approach without consultation of Parliament. There is no intention of that being done.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am a member of the Consultative Committee of this Parliament for the Planning Commission and I do not know of any occasion when even in the Consultative Committee we had been consulted about the proposed changes or the actual major changes that had taken place in the Plan. Am I to understand that no major change . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is making a speech.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Well, the reply was not very brief either.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Or the question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Generally I match the long replies by long questions or long questions by long replies. That is my trouble.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF COMMON TEAS

*261. SHRI N. M. LINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of common teas produced in India per annum;

(b) the quantity exported annually; and

(c) the steps taken to assure a fair price to this quality of tea?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA): (a) and (b). No separate figures of production or export of common teas are available because it has not so far been possible to define common tea in precise terms. The industry has, however, assessed variously the quantity of so-called common teas as 50 per cent. to 60 per cent. of the total production.

(c) The question of affording relief to producers of common tea as distinct from superior categories is engaging the attention of Government.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: In view of the fact that the export of our tea has registered a fall during the past year and since it occupies a key place in our export trade, may I know whether the Government has any proposal to give immediate relief to this sector of tea?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Some relief was given only a few months ago, on 1st June, 1958, and, as I said in reply to the question, Government are examining the question very thoroughly. The difficulty is in defining what is common tea. Superior teas do not require any relief. The matter is under close examination and we hope to arrive at a decision in the near future.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: Is Government aware that teas of the same category are produced in East Africa