

pal scientists discussed it in Geneva, in Canada gradually, it is right.

SHRI 3. MAHANTY: My question was whether the Government of the U.S.R. has offered to supply an atomic reactor to India.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: There has been no mention of atomic-reactor.

APPOINTMENT OF DEPARTMENTAL EMPLOYEES AS TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS ETC. X

17. SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any departmental employees with lower qualifications have been appointed as Technical Assistants, Assistant Engineers, and Assistant Station Engineers in the All India Radio; and

(b) if so, how many in each category, and when such appointments were made?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN) : (a) and (b). All the posts of Technical Assistant and 90 per cent, of the posts of Assistant Engineer are filled through the Union Public Service Commission. 10 per cent, of the posts of Assistant Engineer and all the posts of Assistant Station Engineer are filled by promotion of Departmental employees on the recommendations of the Departmental Promotion Committee over which a member of the Union Public Service Commission presides. The Departmental employees have themselves been recruited and approved by the Union Public Service Commission on the basis of their qualifications.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY : May I know if all these costs are class II posts?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: The Technical Assistants and Assistant Engineers are class II non-gazetted. Assistant Station Engineers are class II gazetted.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know if in these categories are taken the employees of the ex-State Broadcasting Stations?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: Some persons have been recruited as part of an agreement entered into as a result of integration of the erstwhile Indian States in which States there were broadcasting organisations.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Have any of them come under departmental promotion?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: I require notice.

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE: May I know the experience of the Department about the direct recruits by the U.P.S.C. and those who are promoted from other ranks to class II?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: I don't understand the purport of the question.

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE: Class II appointments are filled up by direct recruitment and by promotions. What is the experience of the Government— whether they get more efficient service from direct recruits or from those people who are promoted from the ranks?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: I am not in a position to express my view on that now.

COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

*18. SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any dates and programme for the next Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference have been settled; and

(b) If so, whether it will be attended by the Prime Minister of India?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) and (b). It is proposed to hold the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference in London from the 27th June 1956 onwards. The Prime Minister intends participating in this conference. No formal agendas or programmes are prepared for such conferences.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: May I know if there is any commitment or understanding that Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference is always to be held in London?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: There is no such commitment or understanding. One such conference was held outside, in Colombo,—not a Prime Ministers' Conference but a Commonwealth Foreign Ministers' Conference. It has several times been suggested that it might be held elsewhere but when the convenience of all Members were sought, it was found that London suited them best. So there is no commitment at all.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know if the opinions and views expressed by the U.K. Government in such Commonwealth Conferences conflict with the Bandung Declaration and other statements made by our Prime Minister?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That question does not arise.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I ask another question? I hope this question will arise. May I know whether the Government has in contemplation the question of taking up the issue of Malaya at the forthcoming Commonwealth Conference?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I don't know whether you want to answer. (*Addressing the Prime Minister*)?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: An answer to this question is desired by the country and the people. It is a stand-

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question was about the Prime Ministers' Conference. Is it going to be held, when, and is our Prime Minister attending it? That was the question. Answer has been given. Supplementary was, commitment or understanding and whether it is to be held only in London, Answer was, no such commitment.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: There is a question about programme as well. The question does arise. Whether it will be answered or not is a different matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question does not arise.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: May I ask a question? We had particularly asked about this question of programme. May I know whether the Prime Minister intends to take up the question of Goa at this Conference particularly in view of the attitude of the Commonwealth Members so that there is a better understanding of each other's viewpoint?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: On several occasions previously, I had ventured to point out the nature of these Commonwealth Conferences. First of all, a Commonwealth Conference is not a super-State body nor is it a place where we make references about any matter except such as may perhaps help us in mutually understanding the situation. No resolutions are passed there. We meet as independent Governments. Independent Governments normally deal with each other through diplomatic means over any question that arises, whatever it may be. When they meet, together in this way, they don't bring all their problems there. Apart from not bringing them there, they don't want to bring them. We are not prepared to bring any of our problems there and to treat that Conference as some superior body of reference for us. We

don't treat it as such. That will change the whole nature of the Conference. Therefore some individual problems are seldom discussed there. The broad situation, international situation in Asia, America or Europe —whatever it is, is discussed and every country represented, every Prime Minister expresses his opinion which is obviously not always the same. They differ. No resolution is passed but we get to know each other's opinion.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: I quite appreciate what the Prime Minister says and I am in full agreement with him when he says that this conference is not a super-body. But I asked particularly about Goa because Goa is not a question between two Commonwealth countries.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU*: I may point out

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: It is not a question between two Commonwealth countries. But what I say is, there is an attitude, regarding Goa, of the Commonwealth countries and as such I want to know whether this question will be discussed there so that there is a better understanding of the viewpoints of the Commonwealth countries at least. No question of super-body arises from my question.

(Several hon. Members stood up)

MR. CHAIRMAN: A question has been put. Do you want to say anything?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: No.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Who is the convener of these Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conferences?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Who convenes these conferences?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: The formal convening takes place in the country where the conference is held. Suppose the conference is held in

Colombo or in Ottawa, the convening authority will be the Government of Ceylon or the Government of Canada, or the Government of India, if it is held in India. Because these conferences and some others are being held in London, the convening authority is the Government of the United Kingdom naturally, because they invite them and make them their guests there. As to when a particular conference should be held, on what particular date, that decision takes place after consultations as to what date is suitable, and any country may suggest dates when the time for the conference comes because there may be many important developments taking place.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: May I know whether the Government of India contemplates convening the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference in India?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: The question has not arisen. Normally this conference is held once in eighteen months or once in two years. The next one is going to be held.....

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: In June 1956.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I know it is June, but I was thinking of the period which has elapsed since the last conference.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: That was in January-February, 1954.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: That is to say this one will be some eighteen months after. And the one after that will presumably be held, let us say, some two years from now, and that is far too distant to think about now.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The fewer the better any way. May I know, Sir, whether it would seem unconventional for any Prime Minister participating in this Conference to intimate to the convening authority that he wants to raise certain subjects; if not, may I

know whether our Prime Minister is considering the advisability of intimating to the U.K. Government, which is the convening authority now, to arrange for a discussion of the question of jBtlaya?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: No, Sir. It is not our intention to do that and we do not propose to raise the question there, as we have not raised it in the past.

PRODUCTION OF HEAVY WATER AT NANGAL

•19. SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised plans for the production of heavy water at Nangal; and

(b) if so, how it will be utilised?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY-TO THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON) : (a) and (b). Government have decided to set up at Nangal a Fertilizer-Heavy Water Plant designed to produce ammonium nitrate containing 70,000 tons of nitrogen per year. Heavy water will be a by-product of the fertilizer. Project reports are being obtained for the plant from suitable consultants. A final decision will be taken on the exact process, design, etc. on receipt and examination of the reports.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: May I know what is the estimated cost of the water per ton?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The cost cannot be estimated till we get the information about the project itself.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: May I know whether the Government has taken my decision regarding the by-product and whether the views of the Agricultural Ministry have been obtained on this matter?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: By-product of what?

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: The fertilizer and Heavy Water Project.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: One is the by-product of the other.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: That is what I am asking.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: The hon. Member was pleased to refer to by-product. I want to know whether he was thinking of the by-product of the fertilizer part or of the atomic energy part of it.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Of the fertilizer part.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Sir, we would like to have notice to give a more explicit reply.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the decision regarding the location of the fertilizer factory has been influenced because of the use of this by-product of the fertilizer?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: That was one important reason. That is to say, one reason was that it was a suitable place in the Punjab for a fertilizer factory, because much fertilizer is used there. The other reason was that if we have that particular type of fertilizer factory, heavy water could be produced there almost, I mean to say, without any very great difficulty. If we want to produce heavy-water, we want a great deal of hydro-electric power and electric power was available there from the Bhakra-Nangal. Therefore, these were the various reasons which led to the decision.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: That is correct. But the question is whether the location of the fertilizer factory has been mainly influenced because of the location of the factory at Bhakra-Nangal?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I did say that was one of the principal considerations, hydro-electric power being available there.