

(a) whether Government propose to introduce permit system for the regulation of travel to and from French India;

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme and the reasons for introduction of this system?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. K. CHANDA): (a) and (b). The Government of India are considering a proposal to introduce a permit system for regulating travel between Indian territory and the French Settlements. The details of the scheme are still under consideration. The object of this measure is to check smuggling which is taking place on a large scale on the Indo-French border.

SHRI B. RATH: Is it a particular type of people in Mahe who are engaged in smuggling or all the people of Mahe are engaged in smuggling?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Smugglers are a special class.

SHRI B. RATH: Particular type?

SHRI A. K. CHANDA: Smugglers are a special class.

SHRI B. RATH: So, instead of trying to prevent the smugglers from getting into the Indian Union for taking the goods, what is the necessity of introducing a permit system which would stand in the way of people of Mahe coming to see their relatives in the Indian Union?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Restrictions have to be imposed only on the special class. Why do you prevent ordinary honest people like the Members of the Opposition from coming?

MR. NUTTING'S OBSERVATIONS ABOUT INDIA

***65. SHRI B. RATH:** Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a statement made by Mr. Nutting, the British Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in the House of Commons to the effect that India has been very helpful in the matter of continuance of facilities for the recruitment of Gurkhas in the Nepal territory and allied matters: and

(b) if so, whether Government agree with the observations of Mr. Nutting?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. K. CHANDA): (a) Government of India have seen press reports to this effect.

(b) The question of Government agreeing or not with general and rather vague statements does not arise. They appreciate friendly references by foreign countries. The facts are, as stated previously, that the Government of India asked the British Government to revise their arrangements which were made under the Tripartite Agreement of 1947 so as to put an end to the recruitment of Gurkhas in Indian territory. The U.K. Government agreed and later entered into a direct agreement with the Nepal Government removing their recruiting depots to Nepalese territory. We have been kept informed of these developments but are not a party to this agreement between the U.K. Government and Nepal.

SHRI B. RATH: Is it a fact that on the 20th of July in the House of Commons Mr. Nutting made a statement that the Government of India was helpful in bringing about an agreement between the Government of Nepal and the British Government? Has the Government of India contradicted such a statement made in the House of Commons if it was not true?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: We always try to be helpful to everyone.

SHRI B. RATH: What is the kind of help that was given by the Government of India to the British Govern-

ment to arrive at this agreement between the British Government and the Nepal Government?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I really do not understand what the hon. Member is driving at. There is the British Government dealing with the Nepalese Government. We do not come into the picture except that we made the British Government withdraw their recruiting depots from India as that concerned us and we said, "You go ahead with your business." The mere fact that we did not obstruct is a kind of help that we gave.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: Is it in the interests of our country that we help in the recruitment of mercenary armies for the British Government?

SHRI A. K. CHANDA: We are not helping.

SHRI B. RATH: May I again draw the attention of the Prime Minister to the statement made by Mr. Nutting that the third power concerned had been most helpful in securing this arrangement? I want to know how this Government was most helpful in securing the said arrangement between those two Governments?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: By not coming in their way.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: In view of the British Government's continued terror in Malaya and Kenya, why is this Government allowing transit facilities to Gurkha soldiers of the British Army through India to Malaya?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Well, normally, anybody from Nepal can pass through, not necessarily as an army, but as civilians; and it would be an extraordinary thing for us to stop people going. Secondly, there is the assurance given by us in 1947. Unless there are very special reasons we do not wish to go behind the assurance given by us.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: Nobody objects to the civilians passing through but why the soldiers recruited to the British . . .

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I am sure they go as civilians.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: But they are recruited soldiers of the British Army though they may be under the garb of civilians, and how does the Government square its declaration of total opposition to racialism and colonialism with its action of allowing Gurkha British Army recruits to pass through this country to bolster up British colonial rule in Malaya?

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: How does this arise?

SHRI B. RATH: That the Chairman will decide—not the hon. Member.

MR CHAIRMAN: The Prime Minister offered to answer

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I would very gladly answer the question. If the hon. Member will look at the map he will see that Nepal is surrounded on three sides by India and on one side by Tibet. It is a land-locked country. There are certain arrangements and certain conventions to permit Nepalese citizens to go out, and if Nepal wants to do something—maybe even against our wishes—unless it is particularly dangerous or harmful to us we do not wish to come in the way of an independent country doing that particular thing. If we prevent the entry of people coming to Nepal or going out of Nepal, we simply cut off Nepal from every country except Tibet.

SHRI B. RATH: Is not the Government aware of the fact that the Gurkhas recruited from Nepal are taken into the British Army and that according to the existing agreement Nepal has to supply 8 battalions of Gurkhas for the British Army?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Government is perfectly aware of that fact, and also of the fact that the Nepalese want that to continue.

SHRI B. RATH: Is it not a fact then that these so-called civilians who go

through India are really persons who are recruited for the British Army, and is it the intention of the Government of India to allow the Gurkha people to be so recruited in order to suppress the labour movement in Malaya?

(No reply.)

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Cannot the Government of India give friendly advice to the Government of Nepal—when the representatives of that Government so often come here to seek advice on other matters—in this regard?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Hon. Members do not seem to realise that it is a very difficult matter for the Nepalese Government to take a step which might upset the whole economy of Nepal immediately. It is all very well to give advice, but we cannot offer them that advice which might cause them great difficulties—economic and other difficulties.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is it not a fact that the democratic movement of Nepal has strongly expressed itself against the recruitment of Gurkhas for being used in Malaya?

(No reply.)

MALAYA AUTHORITIES, REFUSAL TO ALLOW
THE INDIAN AMBULANCE UNIT TO LAND
IN PENANG

*66. SHRI B. RATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the authorities in Malaya refused to grant permission to the Indian Ambulance Unit returning from Korea to land in Penang;

(b) if so, what were the reasons for such refusal; and

(c) whether Government have made any representation in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. K. CHANDA): (a) Officers and Junior Commissioned Officers were permitted

to land while the other ranks were detained on the ship.

(b) The ship carrying the Indian Ambulance Unit from Korea reached Penang via Hongkong. The other ranks were travelling as dock passengers and the officers as saloon passengers. As Korea and Hongkong were infected areas, the Malayan Government had to place quarantine restrictions on deck passengers according to their regulations.

(c) Yes.

SHRI B. RATH: Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the statement made by Major S. K. Banerjee, the Leader of the Ambulance Unit, stating that "my men were naturally disappointed. We had a look at Hongkong and we thought we would be allowed to have a look at Malaya, which we were not allowed to do."? Does the Government agree with this statement?

MR. CHAIRMAN: They have seen the statement and you will find in answer (c) that Government have made a representation in the matter.

SHRI B. RATH: What is the result of this representation made?

SHRI A. K. CHANDA: The ship had already left Penang and Singapore.....

SHRI B. RATH: Has the Government protested to the Government.....

SHRI A. K. CHANDA: It has.

*67. [The questioner (Shri V. K. Dhage) was absent.]

DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE IN
RAJASTHAN
STATE

*68. SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Will the Minister for PLANNING be pleased to state the reasons why only an expenditure of Rs. 119 lakhs has been incurred in the State of Rajasthan under the Five Year Plan during the years 1951-53 against a total provision of Rs. 504 lakhs for the said period?