

PROF. G. RANGA : Is it not one of the concessions that are being made to those people who have got to live in such out of the way places ?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : So far as Hirakud is concerned, they are not paying any rent.

SHRI S. MAHANTY : Sir, now if the Minister admits that the occupants in Hirakud quarters do not pay any rent, I ask him if the Government officials anywhere in this Indian Union enjoy this benefit. And if he says that Hirakud is an out of the way place.....

MR. CHAIRMAN : He does not say. Ranga said it. Now all that he says is : Are all Government servants provided free quarters generally in this Indian Union ? And then the question was : If these gentlemen are given free quarters in Hirakud, there must be some special reasons and what are they ?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : So far as the first part is concerned, I do not think I will be in a position to reply for the whole of the Union though generally no free quarters are given. So far as Hirakud is concerned, looking to the out of the way place and the special conditions in which they have to work, the Government gives them that concession.

SHRI S. MAHANTY : May I know if the officers in Damodar or Bhakra, which are equally in out of the way places, are enjoying this concession ?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : At Bhakra, Sir, they are providing houses to some. About D. V. C. I have no information at present.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : In view of the hon. Minister's answer, would he please consider this concession being extended to those of us who are working in out of the way places in Delhi ?

(Laughter).

M. STALIN'S SPEECH AT MOSCOW

*308. SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report published in the *State man*, dated the 16th October 1952, that M. Stalin delivered a speech at the Communist Party Congress at Moscow on the 14th October 1952, wherein he had appealed to all Communist Parties, including that of India, to extend their support and assistance to Soviet Russia and assured the Communist Parties throughout the world including that of India of every assistance from the Soviet Russia ; and

(b) whether Government have verified if the report is correct ?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The relevant passages in the speech as reported to the Government of India are as follows :—

“Our party and our country have always needed and will go on needing the confidence, sympathy and support of the fraternal peoples abroad”. And,

“It is plain that our Party cannot remain in arrears to the fraternal parties and must itself, in its turn, extend support to them and also to their peoples in their struggle for liberation, in their struggle for maintenance of peace.”

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : In view of these answers, Sir, do the Government think that such a speech is proper and would not vitiate our relations with that country ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON : Sir, the Government of India did feel that the speeches of this kind constituted a clear case of interference in our internal affairs. The speeches made by Malenkov and Stalin at the

19th Congress were examined carefully by our Ambassador in Moscow. The Ambassador also carefully examined Stalin's 50-page thesis—"The Economic Problems of Socialism in the U. S. S. R." There is no reference to India or the Communist Party in India. In fact he says that the present peace movement, unlike the movement during the first World War does not pursue the aim of overthrowing capitalism and establishing socialism. It limits itself to democratic aims of the struggle for the maintenance of peace. There is no other sentence which could even indirectly have a bearing on the internal politics of India. As there was no specific reference to India, the Government did not feel that any formal representation on the basis of these speeches would serve any useful purpose.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Sir, the first part of the answer to my supplementary seems to be almost in violent conflict with the second part. May I know what exactly is the attitude of the Government in the matter ? If I may explain, in the first part it is said that it is objectionable. In the second part there are things which are quite irrelevant. I have asked about the speech and not the famous document called—"The Economic Problems of Socialism in the U. S. S. R." Therefore, I should like to know the clear and definite stand of the Government in respect of this speech.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU : Any statement which purports to be an interference with our internal politics is naturally objected to by the Government here. But where there are vague statements made, not with any special reference to India, or generally, it is not a question of our liking them or disliking them, but they are general statements and we do not take any action in regard to general statements like that.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Does the Prime Minister not think that a state-

ment which has been confirmed and verified, and in which this country is referred to, believing in the active support to all Communist Parties including that of India and which also appeals for the active support of all Communist Parties including that of India to support and sustain a foreign country is objectionable ?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU : That depends on the statement. If the hon. Member will read the whole statement in its proper context, there is hardly any reference to India, if I may say so ; of course one may say it refers to it. That is a question of judgment whether India was really meant or not or any particular attention has been drawn to India. There was no stress made, no mention of India, in the whole speech. One may say that it refers to general support of what are called Communist Parties. But so far as we are concerned, we object to any foreign country interfering with our internal politics and whenever any such thing occurs, we clearly and precisely take objection.

SHRI T. S. PATTABIRAMAN : Does the speech of Stalin give any indication that the Communist Party of India has extra-territorial loyalty and that it can count upon the support of Soviet Russia ?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU : We need not go for Marshal Stalin's speech for that.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU : The reply of the Government to the first part of the question was that a speech of the kind referred to there did constitute an interference in the internal affairs of our country and that the Government therefore objected to it. If the Government objected to it, what action have they taken in consequence of their objection ?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU : I do not think that the hon. Member quite appreciated that reply. The speech was considered to be an interference but then when the speech was

considered fully, there was hardly any reference to India in it.

PROF. G. RANGA : Was any attempt made by our Ambassador there to ascertain fully from the people concerned whether the speech did or did not imply any kind of inducement to their own friends in India ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has answered it. A study of the speech and other relevant documents was made by our Ambassador in Soviet Russia and his argument was that there was no specific reference to India in them.

PROF. G. RANGA : My question is whether they did or did not ascertain from the people who were responsible for the speech whether they really did not have India in their minds ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON : These were documents of 50 pages each. They were very carefully examined and studied by our Ambassador in Moscow, and in reply to the Government of India's representation based on the partial report that appeared in the papers, he said that there was no reason why we should make formal representation on the basis of what was published in the Indian papers which was not a true translation of the speeches as they were delivered at the 19th Congress.

PROF. G. RANGA : Because we did not have the courage to make any representation.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is not a fair comment.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Is it not a fact that the speech of Marshal Stalin referred to did mention that he valued the trust which other fraternal parties have reposed in the Soviet Union, "which signifies readiness to support our Party in its struggle for a radiant future for the peoples, in its struggle against war, in its struggle for the preservation of peace ?"

MR. CHAIRMAN : He says that the reference to fraternal parties is limited to the maintenance of peace and the prevention of war.

PROF. G. RANGA : Is it not a fact that that speech of Marshal Stalin referred to the liberation of fraternal peoples ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are answering yourself.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU : I must say that the phrase Mr. Ranga used is not fair. He said that our Ambassador did not have the courage to make a representation. I do not think that our Ambassador or the Government of India lack courage in these matters.

PROF. G. RANGA : Is this not a matter of opinion ?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU : Maybe. But as a matter of fact, on numerous occasions we had clearly expressed our opinion when there was anything in the nature of what we considered to be interference in our internal affairs. In this particular matter, when it came to our knowledge, we referred it to our Ambassador in Moscow, who is a very experienced diplomat. He sent us full reports running into hundreds of pages and he gave a certain advice in the matter and we only followed that advice. There is no question of lacking courage. We pursue our policy, I hope, consistently, regardless of whether it pleases or displeases anybody. Naturally we wish to please everybody. We want to have friendly relations with other countries, but in any matter of principle, we have not been known to surrender.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Is it not a fact that our Government and the various political parties in India also express sympathy and support to the struggles for independence of fraternal people, for instance, the people in Tunisia, Egypt or Morocco ?

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH : Not by Communist Parties.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA : Are Government aware that the members of the Communist Party in India owe allegiance not to the country of their birth but to the country of their adoption, viz., the U.S.S.R.?

SHRI B. RATH : I object to that statement.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : We do not owe allegiance to any other country.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Has the Government's attention been drawn to the reported assurance given by the representative of the Communist Party of India which was more or less a response to the appeal made by Mr. Stalin to the effect that the Communist Party of India will give sustenance to, and stand by Soviet Russia ?

IMPORT OF WOODSCREWS

*309. SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the present rate of import duty on wood screws ;

(b) whether there is any preferential rate ; if so, for what countries and at what rate ;

(c) whether the wood screws industry is protected ;

(d) the cost of production in India and the landed cost of imported wood screws ;

(e) whether there exists any difference in the figures of cost of production as estimated by the Tariff Board and as at present, if so, what is the difference ;

(f) the policy adopted by the Government in relation to imports of wood screws, during the past four years ; and

(g) the variations, if any, in the import duty during the past four years ?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) : (a) 31½ per cent. *ad valorem*.

(b) No.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). In the absence of specifications of the wood screws it is not possible to give the information.

(f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, Annexure No. 89.]

(g) A rate of 30 per cent. *ad valorem* was levied till 28th February 1951, with effect from 1st March 1951, an additional 5% on 30% has been levied.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : In view of the fact that our own capacity to produce wood screws is more than the requirements of the country, do the Government propose to take steps to ban the import of wood screws totally ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : We have curtailed the imports of wood screws to the extent that is necessary under the present conditions of production in the country. When production progresses, we shall also be progressing in curtailing the imports of wood screws.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Is it not a fact that our production is only 500 to 700 tons ? Is this not due entirely to the Government allowing imports from foreign countries ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : I cannot say that production has gone down owing to our import policy. In a matter like this, it is always very difficult to precisely judge our import policy because our imports are for six-monthly periods. When there are over-imports, production suffers slightly. We always decide our imports in the light of our own production. For the latest six-monthly period July-December 1952, soft currency licences were issued on a quota of