

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Among these people, there are mostly some of our nationals, and a few non-nationals. I think possibly two from America and two from Europe. Those people who have come from abroad are fairly well known, and there is no reason to doubt their *bona fides*.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या प्रधान मंत्री जी ने उनको सलाह दी कि आप सफल नहीं हो सकेंगे, क्योंकि जितना उन्होंने चीनियों को पढ़ा है और किसी ने नहीं पढ़ा। इस उत्तम सलाह को मानने के लिए भी शान्ति सेना के नेता, श्री शंकर राव देव जी तैयार नहीं हुए। तो क्या उनको इसके लिए विवश किया गया? और अगर वह शान्ति कर सकते हैं तो यही करें यहां भी बहुत से लड़ने वाले बैठे हैं।

Indian Missions Abroad

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- *421. { **Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:**
Dr. U. Misra:
Shri P. K. Ghosh:
Shri Kapur Singh:
Shri Gulshan:
Shri Ram Singh:
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the total expenditure on Indian Missions abroad had increased by about 21 per cent. during the last five years; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The increase is on account of (i) opening of new Missions and upgrading of existing Missions; (ii) expansion in the activities of the Missions; and (iii) general rise in running costs such as rents, allowances, etc. A statement giving details is being laid on the table of the House [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1620/63]

Shri Dinen Bhattacharya: In view of the emergency in our country may I know whether Government has any plan to curtail this expenditure which has gone up by 21.5 per cent?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): In view of the emergency, Government propose to increase it considerably, so that more publicity might be done and more propaganda which, according to many Members of this House, is suffering from lack of funds. There are a large number of new countries in Africa and elsewhere, and we have to increase our establishments there, and still it is the view of many persons who know that we are not dealing quite fairly with regard to expenditure with many of these new missions abroad.

Shri Dinen Bhattacharya: May I know whether Government has any machinery to check the expenditure in respect of this item?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: In so far as possible, it is done. Inspectors go, we get reports of the expenditure. Most of these expenditures are more or less fixed—the establishments and their costs. Some other expenditure which is not fixed can be checked and is checked.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I would like to know whether in view of this increased expenditure, the efficiency has also gone up, and if so, the reason why our missions failed in convincing the other countries regarding our case on the border problem with the Chinese?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have not quite understood the hon. Member.

Mr. Speaker: He asks whether in view of this increase in expenditure our efficiency has also gone up, and if so, why our representatives failed to convince other nations about the justification of our stand in our border dispute with China.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is always our effort to increase our efficiency. I cannot say that it is perfect everywhere. In the large number of missions we have, they vary in their quality and in the kind of work they do, but the effort is always there. As for the hon. Member asking why we have failed, to that I have no answer. I do not know that they have failed. They may have in some places not succeeded. Success and failure depend not merely on our individual representative or somebody else, but so many other factors come in.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: It is a question of degree only.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: My question was . . .

Mr. Speaker: Can it be answered?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: They have not succeeded in counteracting the propaganda of the Chinese. That is what I said. Their propaganda is much more vicious.

Mr. Speaker: The answer he has given, that he does not concede that we have failed in it. He says we may not have been successful in certain places, but we have not failed.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I would add, since he referred to the Chinese, that Chinese propaganda is carried on on such a vast scale and with such vast expenses that before them whatever we spend is a beggarly amount.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: We cannot counter even Pakistan propaganda.

Shri Kapur Singh: I want to know whether it is correct that in spite of the fact that we have accredited to foreign countries costly missions, some of our Ministers do frequently visit those countries to sign agreements etc.?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Yes. We have encouraged some of our Minis-

ters specially to go there, for particular and general reasons, to see their work, more especially in South East Asia and in Africa.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: In view of persistent reports that the image of India is not being presented successfully by our diplomatic representatives in different countries including a country like Great Britain, where our case on the India-China issue could have been presented much more successfully than it is, may I know if the Prime Minister is making any very special effort to see that the increase in expenditure is commensurate with the increase in proper efficient organisation of the diplomatic missions?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: As a matter of fact, I do not think there has been any increase in expenditure—as far as I know—in our High Commission in U.K. As for the reasons for the British thinking in a particular way, there are many reasons and it is difficult for me to go into them. I do not think hon. Members will expect a highly sophisticated country like the UK to be carried away this way or that way by some propaganda.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: On a point of order. If I heard the Prime Minister aright, there has been no increase in expenditure on our Mission in UK. The statement shows the total increase in expenditure viz. Rs. 100 lakhs more than in 1957-58. Unfortunately, we do not have the figures for UK. But I do not know whether the statement he made is correct.

Mr. Speaker: If he has not got the figures, he should accept whatever is given.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: He also has got no figures.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I said I myself am not sure. I thought, and still think—I may be wrong; I have

not got the figures—that there has been no particular increase in expenditure in UK.

Shri Hem Barua: Is it not a fact that the 1961 and 1962 audit has revealed gross irregularities in the maintenance of furniture accounts, irregularities in constructing chancery buildings, irregularities in the maintenance of accounts of silverware, radio sets, automobiles etc., resulting in a huge wastage of public funds to the tune of Rs. 40 lakhs? If so, may I know how far this contributes to the total increased expenditure as pointed out by Government?

Shrimti Lakshmi Menon: If the hon. Member had listened to the answer, he would have found that the increase in expenditure is really due to the creation of a number of new missions. For instance, new missions were created in Beirut, Bucharest, Dakar, Helsinki, Leopoldville and Dar-es-Salaam. Then a new information post was created at Khartoum, at Prague and at Lagos. This has consumed about Rs. 15 lakhs. Then some of the missions were upgraded, raised to the status of embassy, in Jeddah, Vienna, Vientiane. Then the offices in Kuala Lumpur and Lagos were upgraded to High Commissions.

All these have been responsible for the increase in expenditure. As was pointed out, this is the minimum. We are trying our best to reduce our expenditure by pruning the establishment and by cutting out not very necessary posts.

Shri Hem Barua: May I point out.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. My objection was that he was making a speech, not eliciting information.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The irregularities that the hon. Member complained of do not add to the expenditure.

Mr. Speaker: That was exactly the answer, that the allegations made of

irregularities are not responsible for the increase in expenditure.

Shri Hem Barua: May I submit that the reply she has given is not even one naya paisa of a reply to my question? I just wanted to know about the irregularities, whether they are denied or admitted.

Mr. Speaker: That is not relevant to this question relating to increase in expenditure as mentioned in the statement. That is a different thing.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: When a question like this is taken up and supplementaries are asked in regard to certain serious allegations regarding malversation and misuse of funds, is not the Government to answer about those allegations.... (*Interruptions*).

Shri Hem Barua: That is not a figment of my imagination, Sir. I am quoting from the report of the Public Accounts Committee.

Mr. Speaker: There are certain things which may be contained even in audit reports; they may be true as well. We are taking up a particular question; about the increase which has been explained in this statement. What has been that increase due to? That has been stated there. Certain missions have been added; certain missions have been raised in status. My only objection was that these do not come in within this 21 per cent increase that we are discussing just at present. That was the question and this is the statement that has been given. Otherwise, if it were an open question, I would not have minded it.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: The total expenditure has increased by certain percentage. This House is concerned about the quantum of expenditure of our diplomatic missions and the fairness or the unfairness with which they do this. Surely, it comes within the ambit of this question.

Mr. Speaker: It has been explained what that increase is due to.

Shri Hem Barua: May I ask one information from you, Sir? Is not wastage expenditure a part of the increased expenditure or a cause of increased expenditure?

Mr. Speaker: 21 per cent—that is explained in the statement. This allegation of wasteful expenditure is not part of that.

Third Plan Achievements

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- *422. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:
Shri Warrior:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Dr. Ranen Sen:
Shri D. D. Puri:
Shri Rameshwaranand:
Shri Kolla Venkaiah:

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various divisions of the Planning Commission were asked to make a mid-Plan appraisal of the achievements and short-falls in the Third Plan in different sectors and suggest the changes called for in the targets; and

(b) if so, the suggestions made by them?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Employment and for Planning (Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman): (a) and (b). The Planning Commission has been engaged for the past few months in making a detailed mid-term appraisal of the Third Five Year Plan in consultation with Central Ministries and State Governments. A document on the subject is under preparation.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether the information that has been called for from the Central Ministries and the State Ministries is for the year

1962-63 and 1961-62 or it goes beyond that?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: It necessarily deals with the past as the review of the Third Plan so far is to assess past progress and future prospects for making necessary adjustments in the Plan in view of the changed circumstances, especially the emergency and for formulating a basis for the Fourth Plan.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What is the agency? Is there one single agency or there are multiple agencies which are to review the advances and short-falls of these plans at the State sector and the Central sector?

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): It cannot be a single agency. The Planning Commission is the co-ordinating body and the Ministries are associated in this task of appraisal and assessment of the future.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I wanted to know specifically what these assessment agencies are.

Shri Nanda: Working groups have been set up for some subjects. There are different divisions who are dealing with this matter. Information is received from the Ministries; in collaboration with the representatives of these Ministries the reports are discussed.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Is it possible for the Government to put before the House some broad aspect of this mid term appraisal of the Plan so that Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha could discuss it when the Plan debate takes place in this House.

Shri Nanda: Yes, Sir. I think the whole process is likely to be completed in another four or five weeks or so. But it is not possible to submit it within the period of the session of Parliament.