

LOK SABHA

Thursday, 5th December, 1957

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of
the Clock

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

U.N.E.F.

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*814. { Shri Radha Raman:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state.

(a) whether any indications are available as to when it would be possible to take back the Indian contingent to U.N.E.F. from the areas in Egypt in which they are posted at present; and

(b) what is the present strength of the Indian force there?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) No.

(b) The present strength of the Indian Contingent is 1174 officers and men.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know whether the Government has any proposal with regard to the time for which this Force will be kept in Egypt, and is so, what is that?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: No, Sir. No time limit has been fixed for the functioning of this Force.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know the amount that is being spent by the Indian Government on maintaining

this Force and whether it is shared by the United Nations Organisation and if so, to what extent?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: There is an initial allotment of 10 million dollars for the expenses of this Force, out of which India's share is in proportion to our contribution to the United Nations.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know what is the organisational set up of the U.N.E.F. and whether it is taking orders from our own Commander or from the United Nations Commanders, and from which country he comes?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Our contingent will take orders from our own Commander

Shri Kasliwal: It appears from press reports that two or three countries which had also joined the U.N.E.F. have subsequently withdrawn their forces and that there is a proposal for the creation of an International Police force to replace the U.N.E.F. there. May I know how far it is correct and if so, what is the reaction of the Government to such a proposal?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The creation of an International Police force is a larger question and it does not arise out of this.

'India, 1957'

*815. Shri V. C. Shukla: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to some inaccuracies contained in "INDIA, 1957", the official reference volume of the Publications Division, in which under "Highest Mountains" descriptions of mountain peaks and their heights have been given which are