

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): The proposal is still in the formative stage, and until we finalise our proposal, we do not propose to contact other countries.

Shri Ansar Harvani: May I know whether Government are aware that some of the film producers in this country attend the various film festivals, over the head of the Government of India, and if so, what action Government are taking in this connection?

Dr. Keskar: That question is different, but I might inform the hon. Member that all film festivals are not necessarily Government-sponsored, or, in other words, the relations are not on a Government-to-Government basis. There are a number of film festivals, and the commercial circles have their contacts, and there the producers can go on their own.

Non-Indian Goans in Bombay

*9. **Shri Assar:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many non-Indian Goans are residing in Bombay; and

(b) if so, what is their position?

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

(a) and (b). Goans are considered as Indians for all practical purposes such as residence in India, employment in the professions, and appointment to Government services. They are eligible for Indian nationality under the provisions of the Constitution or of the Citizenship Act. No registration of Goans in India is required and accordingly no details are available of such Goans who might be technically Portuguese subjects but Government do not consider that a factor of material importance.

Shri Assar: May I know whether it is a fact that Government have received reports about the fifth-columnist activities of the non-Indian

Goans, and if so, what action has been taken by Government to check that?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: We have no knowledge.

Laws of the Sea

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*10. { **Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:**
 Shri Assar:
 Shri B. Das Gupta:
 Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) what was the outcome of the conference on Laws of the Sea in which India participated; and

(b) whether Government are contemplating the possibility of unilaterally declaring India's territorial water-limits to be twelve miles from the coast?

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

(a) The Conference was unable to determine the width of the territorial sea or the linked question of the fishing zone.

(b) The resulting situation is being examined by the Government but no decision has yet been reached as to what further steps may be necessary.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know whether Government have considered the question of unilaterally declaring the territorial water-limit of India as 12 miles?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): We have considered the whole question but we have not thought it necessary, as at present advised, to do what the hon. Member suggests.

Shri N. R. Muniswamy: May I know whether any machinery has been evolved in this conference for the settlement of any disputes arising out of the infringement of the territorial

water-limits, and if so, the nature of that machinery?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: These disputes are presumably of an international kind, and such machinery as is available for the settlement of international disputes, presumably, would be used.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know the territorial water-limit of India at present, and whether any international conference is contemplated in future to have a common territorial water-limit for the rest of the countries in the world?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Some time ago, that is, some years ago, we declared our territorial water-limit as 6 miles.

Shri Tangamani: Already, two conferences have taken place for fixing the territorial water-limit, and we have learnt that no final decision has been reached. I would like to know whether any sub-committee or any other committee would go into this matter or whether another conference is going to take place for finalising this, because at both the previous conferences, no decision was taken.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member refers to a sub-committee of that conference? That is an international sub-committee of an international conference. Whose sub-committee is the hon. Member referring to? Sub-committee of the Government of India?

Mr. Speaker: What the hon. Member wants to know is only this. Since this matter has not been settled so far, is it going to be decided by another conference, or has that conference appointed any sub-committee to go into this matter and work out the details?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: So far as I know, no sub-committee has been appointed. Presumably, the conference will meet again some time or the other to consider it.

Shri Assar: May I know who moved the proposal which was supported by our delegation, and what was the object to support the 12-mile limit?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I could not follow the question. Who moved, and what?

Shri Assar: Who moved the proposal on our behalf?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: In the conference, there are many proposals made, unmade, re-made and amended. I do not know what the hon. Member is referring to.

Shri Raghunath Singh: May I know whether India opposed the American proposal of 6 miles, and if so, the reason therefor?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I suppose the hon. Member refers to what is called the U.S.—Canadian proposal. So far, we were chiefly concerned, not so much with the limits, but with one point namely that no warship should go into that limit, whatever the limit may be, without the permission of the Government concerned. That was the main point that we stressed, and on that, ultimately, no agreement was reached.

Earnings of Factory Employees

*12. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a fall in the nominal earnings of factory employees earning less than Rs. 200 per month during the year 1958 as compared to 1957; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the same?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) No, the nominal earnings of factory employees have increased from Rs. 1248 in 1957 to Rs. 1283 in 1958;

(b) Does not arise.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: From the figures that have been worked out by the Director of the Labour Bureau, I