

Shri S. N. Mishra: So far as the progress report of the Second Plan is concerned, the hon. Member would see that a kind of progress report was included in the Third Plan document. No plan can be formulated unless there is an assessment of the performance in the past few years. So, to that extent the progress report is included in the Third Plan document. So far as the future is concerned, we are going to take steps to receive information in the required form. Previously we would have given information but that would have been of a mechanical nature; that would not have gone to the heart of the matter.

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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS

Indian Airmen in the Custody of Nagas

***132. Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mr. A. Z. Phizo, now in London, recently offered to negotiate with the Government for the release of the four Indian airmen in the custody of the Naga hostiles; and

(b) if so, what has been the Government's reaction thereto?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri J. N. Hazarika): (a) and (b). The Government of India have received no such offer from Phizo. It appears that in June, 1961, Mr. Gavin Young, a correspondent of *Observer*, London, wrote to the British Red Cross Society for their help in arranging the release of the aircrew. This request was passed on, through the International Red Cross, to the Indian Red Cross who informed us of this and enquired what they should do. They were told that the Red Cross representatives can be present along with the local Government officials at the time of the actual handing over of the aircrew. It seems that the Red Cross authorities have been in touch with Phizo about this

matter. They first suggested that the airmen should be handed over in November or December. The date was then put forward to March in a telegram believed to have been sent by Phizo to the International Committee of Red Cross. It is to be seen whether Phizo has any influence or authority to see that the airmen are, in fact, released according to his suggestion.

Amount held up by Chinese in Tibet

***136. Shri Agadi:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large sums of money belonging to Indian Traders in Tibet have been held-up by the Chinese Government;

(b) if so, the total estimated amounts thus held up in Tibet; and

(c) the action Government of India have taken in this regard?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. It is a fact that large sums of money mainly in the form of unpaid debts owing to Indian Traders have been held up in Tibet due to the unhelpful and obstructive attitude of the Chinese Government.

(b) The amount held up is Rs. 20 lakhs on a rough estimate.

(c) The Government of India have made a series of representations to the Chinese Government requesting for help in the recovery of these debts but there has so far been no response.

De Jure transfer of Former French possessions in India

***137. { Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
 } Shri Tangamani:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 27 on the 20th November, 1961 and state:

(a) the progress made about the *de-Jure* transfer of former French territories in India; and

(b) the attitude of the Government of France in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) and (b). The Government of France has already introduced the Ratification Bill in the French Parliament. It is expected to come up for consideration before the French National Assembly during its next session.

Scarcity of Cement in Orissa

***138. Shri B. C. Mullick:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is great scarcity of cement in Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken to meet the requirement of cement in Orissa?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Besides the overall shortage of cement, shortage in supply of railway wagons to factories for movement of cement and operational restrictions imposed at times by the Railways have recently affected adversely supplies to Orissa.

(c) The State Government have made arrangements for lifting cement by road. An additional quantity of 10,000 tons has also been released to them during the current quarter (Jan-March, 1962).

National Instruments Factory, Calcutta

***142. Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 369 on the 28th November, 1961 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees of the National Instruments Factory are being deprived of several facilities which they formerly enjoyed when they were considered as working on 'foreign service';

(b) whether confirmation in existing vacancies of permanent posts is being withheld to them;

(c) whether fresh allotment of quarters to eligible employees has been stopped; and

(d) whether the matter will be reviewed?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Fresh allotment of Central Government quarters to eligible employees is not being done and in lieu thereof they are entitled to House rent allowance.

Recognition extended to New Regime in Burma

***143. Shri Tangamani:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether our Government have recognized the new Government of Burma; and

(b) if so, under what terms?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. We have informed the Burmese Foreign Office through our Ambassador that we welcome the new regime's policy of neutrality and desire to maintain friendly relations and that we reciprocate these sentiments.

Cement for Tea Industry

***146. Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) how far supplies of cement to the Tea Industry fell short of demand during the year 1961;

(b) whether a demand to increase not only the allocations but also actual supplies of cement to the Tea Industry was voiced at the meeting of the Tea Board held in the middle of December 1961 at Shillong; and

(c) if so, what effective measures have been taken to meet the Industry's demand?