

(d) the action taken, thereon?

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** (a) Yes

(b) Yes, from one Union

(c) The union complained against the postponement of elections to the Works Committee

(d) A suggestion has been made to the management to hold the elections early.

**Shri Tangamani:** Even in the 16th Labour Conference it was decided that more power should be given to the Works Committees. So may I know the specific dates on which the election will take place both for the Kargah Collieries and the other two collieries to which a reference was made when the reply was given on the 17th?

12 hrs.

**Shri Abid Ali:** The other Union objected for holding the election on the ground that it was contrary to the decision reached in the Labour Advisory Committee of Bihar and that matter had to be given consideration. Therefore it was thought necessary to postpone the election. Of course, reference was made about it.

**Shri Tangamani:** He said on a previous occasion that the Regional Labour Commissioner has gone into it and a decision has been taken and a firm date will be fixed. I would like to know when this particular election is to take place.

**Shri Abid Ali:** Date has not been fixed.

**Mr Speaker:** Question-hour is over.

### SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Cameroons

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S N Q. No. 3 { **Shri Vasudevan Nair:**  
**Shri H N Mukerjee:**  
**Shrimati Renu**  
**Chakravartty:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to urgent representations made

recently to the Government of India by representatives of the peoples' movement in the Cameroons requesting for support to the cause of popular freedom there,

(b) whether the question of the future of the Cameroons is coming up shortly before the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations,

(c) whether India was represented in a Commission sent to the Cameroons in order to report on conditions there to the said Council, and

(d) whether a copy of the said report expounding our attitude in the matter will be laid on the Table of the House?

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

(a) There are several political parties in the Cameroons. One of them, called the Party of the Union of the Population of the Cameroons, has sent us some messages asking us to support their point of view.

(b) The Trusteeship Council met on 30th January and has already made its recommendations about the future of the Cameroons.

(c) **Shri Rikhi Jaipal,** First Secretary in our Permanent Representatives office in New York, was elected by the Trusteeship Council to be the Indian expert on the recent Visiting Mission to the Cameroons. He was however, not a Government representative and was elected in his personal capacity.

(d) The Visiting Mission submitted a unanimous report. A copy will be sent to the Parliament Library.

**Shri Vasudevan Nair:** May I know what is the attitude of the Government of India on the question of deciding the future of the Trusteeship Territory the Cameroons, whether the Government of India supports the demand of the people of the Cameroons that there should be a referendum before deciding the future of the

Cameroons and the question of the Union of the two Cameroons?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** The attitude of the Government of India is very well known regarding the liberation of the people who are under the Trusteeship system. Regarding the procedure, the procedure is adopted by the General Assembly and Trusteeship Council.

**Shri Vasudevan Nair:** I would like to know the attitude of the Government of India in the matter.

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** The Government of India's attitude is that all these areas should be liberated and in consultation with the people of that area.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** May I know why it is that the Indian expert did not give a note of dissent to the report of the Commission to the Cameroons which has accepted the present division of the Cameroons, as a basis for its recommendation and has specifically also recommended that a part of the British Cameroon should remain integrated with British Nigeria which goes completely contrary to what has just been stated regarding the policy of the Government of India?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** This is a fact finding mission and the Government of India did not issue any instructions to the expert. I will read the rule regarding choice of expert which will clarify the situation:

"The Trusteeship Council shall select the members of each visiting mission who shall preferably be one or more of the representatives on the Council. Each mission may be assisted by experts and by representatives of the local administration. A mission and the individual members thereof shall, while engaged in a visit, act only on the basis of the instructions of the Council and shall be responsible exclusively to it."

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** As has been stated in the answer to the question, there are numerous parties there. It is one thing to be clear about freedom coming to the Cameroons; it is another thing to be absolutely clear as to the method to be adopted, the next step to be taken. For instance a difficulty arises. May I say that the whole of the Cameroons must be united and free. If their present demand means that that part of the Cameroons which can become free must not become free, a difficult question arises which I am not in a position to answer. The circumstances, the people there, the peoples wishes have to be consulted. Here is a certain part which is likely to become free. Are we to delay that because of some other demand attached to it? I am not giving an opinion. I am merely indicating a difficulty of this problem. The broad issue is that the Cameroons should be free and become independent. We support that. For the rest, it is for the leaders of the Cameroons to decide as to what they would like to do.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** May I know if the report of the Mission to the Cameroons is not being supported fully by the representative of the Government of India in the General Assembly and whether any particular united move will be made on behalf of the Asian African Group within the General Assembly on this issue?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** There are differences of opinion as far as I know. I do not know what the latest development in the Asian African Group might be. But in the Cameroons themselves, there are differences of opinion among the popular organisations.

**Shri Vasudevan Nair:** Has it come to the notice of the Government of India that there are complaints about the Commission that visited the Cameroons, that the General Assembly and Trusteeship Council wanted them

even to go to jails and receive petitions and they did not do so?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** The Commission, under the rules, has the right to visit any place that they liked and receive petitions and interview petitioners which they have done. Since it is a fact finding mission, it takes all steps necessary to find the real facts about the terms of reference

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** On the question of the French Cameroons which will be declared independent within the French Union and is going to be declared on 1st January, 1960, may I know whether the Government of India will while supporting, I believe from the Prime Minister's statement, declaration of Independence within the French Union, press for the withdrawal of the 60,000 foreign troops from the Cameroons after that date?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Naturally, we should like the troops to be withdrawn. I do not quite know what the hon. Member means by our pressing for it. In what capacity do we press? We express our opinion whenever occasion offers

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** In the Resolution that is already adopted, these things are taken care of. For instance, it welcomes with satisfaction the assurances given by the Prime Minister of the Cameroons under French Administration to the visiting Mission and which have been reiterated on behalf of the administering authority before the Council that necessary measures are being discussed in the Legislative Assembly for the granting of the broader measures of political amnesty and strongly urges that such amnesty should be granted on the widest possible basis with the least possible delay and also for the return of exiles without reprisals, etc. All these assurances were given. That is why we supported the Resolution—troops also.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Steel Foundries

\*527. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of steel foundries to be set up in the country during the Second Five Year Plan period and Third Five Year Plan period respectively; and

(b) the capacity of such foundries and amount likely to be spent thereon?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House

### Statement

(a) Ten steel foundries are to be set up during the Second Plan period. It is not possible to say how many steel foundries would be established during the Third Plan period.

(b) The total capacity of the ten foundries is 44820 tons per annum. The total estimated cost of these foundries is about Rs. 6.5 crores. This figure is exclusive of the cost of the Foundry Forge Plant to be set up in the public sector. Four units have already come into operation and four more are likely to come up by the end of 1959. Over and above this the much enlarged project of foundry forge with Czechoslovakia collaboration is being established at Ranchi.

### केन्द्रीय लोक-निर्माण विभाग में ठेकेदारी प्रथा की समाप्ति

\*५३० श्री भक्त दर्शन क्या निर्माण, आवास और संरक्षण मंत्री १६ दिसम्बर, १९५८ के तारंकित प्रश्न संख्या १०४५ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि केन्द्रीय लोक-निर्माण विभाग के भवन तथा अन्य निर्माण कार्यों में ठेकेदारी प्रथा को समाप्त करने के जिस प्रस्ताव पर विचार किया जा रहा है उसके तिलतिले में इस बीच क्या प्रगति हुई है ?