

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal did not find favour with State Governments.

#### Loans for Goldsmiths

1569. { **Shri Jashvant Mehta:**  
**Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the up-to-date amount of loans disbursed in different States to unemployed goldsmiths after the announcement of new policy in September, 1963; and

(b) the total number of goldsmiths in different States who have been rehabilitated and the number of applications for loans pending in each State?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House, when received.

12.00 hrs.

#### CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

(i) MOVE FOR CONFERENCE OF NON-ALIGNED NATIONS

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur (Jalore):** I call the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

The reported move for convening a conference of non-aligned nations,

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Laxmi Menon):** In a joint communique issued at the conclusion of the visit of Mrs. Bandarnaike, the Prime Minister of Ceylon, to the United Arab Re-

public, on 13th October, 1963, it was stated that:

"In the firm conviction and belief that a better understanding between nations could be created and international tension relaxed and eventually resolved by following a policy of non-alignment, the President of the United Arab Republic and the Prime Minister of Ceylon agreed that another conference of non-aligned countries should be held some time next year".

2. India has welcomed the intention to hold such a Conference and has expressed her willingness to participate in it. It is hoped that the proposed Conference would help in the promotion of international peace and understanding and give support to the processes of conciliation and the reduction of cold war tensions. The Government of India would be prepared to give such assistance as may be necessary for the successful implementation of the proposal.

3. It is obvious that Conference of this type require a great deal of preparation and must necessarily be preceded by an exchange of views among interested countries. Such informal exchanges are now going on. The Government of India have also been in communication with the Governments of the United Arab Republic and Ceylon, and an exchange of views is also taking place with other interested countries.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** The hon. Prime Minister is reported to have stressed that this conference has assumed a special urgency in the wake of the most unfortunate and tragic assassination of the President of USA, Mr. Kennedy. What truth is there in this statement? What are the implications which persuaded the hon. Prime Minister to stress the urgency of this conference particularly in the wake of this assassination?

**The Prime Minister, Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** I do not quite remember in

what context I used that word 'urgency'. But if I did, I must have merely stated that the tragic assassination of President Kennedy naturally has had a big effect in international politics, and it would be desirable for the non-aligned countries to get together and express themselves in furtherance of many of the objectives that President Kennedy had and was trying to pursue. To strengthen that in this context that was all I meant.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath** (Hoshangabad): Is China trying to sneak into the conference?

**Shri Nath Pai** (Rajapur): We should like to know our attitude towards China which is trying to qualify as a non-aligned power.

**Mr. Speaker:** No.

**Sri Nath Pai:** It is very important.

**Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah** (Adoni): In view of the fact that both Pakistan and China have started summit level diplomacy to hustle African and Asian countries into a second Bandung Conference, instead of a non-aligned nations' Conference, what efforts do Government propose to make to counteract this move?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not know what the hon. Member expects me to say. The Prime Minister of China and the President of Pakistan are touring other countries. Possibly they do not approve of this non-aligned nations conference because, in any normal view of the case, they do not come into it. Neither of them came to the last non-aligned nations' conference and neither of them apparently qualifies for any non-aligned nations' conference.

It may be that when they go there, they express their views in regard to international matters and do what normally a country does, put forward

its own case, and do propaganda on its own behalf.

So far as we are concerned, whenever we have an opportunity, we take advantage of it and explain our country's attitude in regard to these matters.

(ii) REPORTED FIRING BY PAKISTANIS  
IN LATHITILLA AND DUMABARI

**Shri S. M. Banerjee** (Kanpur): I call the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

Reported firing and use of Machine guns by Pakistanis in Lathitilla and Dumabari sectors resulting in serious injury to a security guard and mounting tension on our borders.

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):** Yesterday I made a brief statement that on 9th December and again on the 10th December, the East Pakistan Rifles had opened fire in the Lohacherra area of Assam. Last night, we received a report from the Assam Government that the Pakistani forces had opened fire in the Lathitilla/Karkhanaputni area, at about 22.5 hours on the night of 10th December. Later, they extended the area and zone of firing all along the Lathitilla/Dumabari area. Our border security forces had to fire in self-defence; firing continued intermittently throughout the night of 10th December. Messages received so far indicate that firing was continuing.

As a result of the firing by Pakistan at Karkhanaputni, one of our constables was injured in the leg. He has been removed to the hospital. So far, there are no reports of any civilian casualties. The Deputy Commissioner of Cachar and our Sector Commander have proceeded to the area of the firing.

The firing in the Lathitilla/Dumabari area seems to be a repercussion of the