

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There is nothing odd about it. Whatever may occur, if it occurs in a State Government territory, we get the information from the State Government. That is the right course. Unless we have an army outpost or some intelligence, we normally get it from the State Government. As for what the hon. Member says, what I ventured to say was that this is not part of the Nagaland. It is, of course, true that the Naga hostiles occasionally go outside and attack various villages round about, chiefly in the hope of getting some money or supply. The Nagas in this case too, I understand, demanded money and supplies and on the villagers not acceding to their wishes they attacked them.

Shri Hem Barua: May I submit that this is not a case of pure dacoity?

Mr. Speaker: As the hon. Prime Minister pointed out, this attack is only for the purpose of furnishing themselves with sufficient resources to fight later on. All that can be done is being done by that Government and this Government. Enough has been said and sufficient factual information has been given to this House. So, I do not think it is necessary or worthwhile to allow these adjournment motions.

KARNAFULI DAM IN PAKISTAN AND ITS EFFECTS ON INDIAN TERRITORY

Mr. Speaker: I have received notice of another adjournment motion from Shri Hem Barua which reads:

"The situation arising out of the reported decision of Pakistan to inaugurate the Karnafuli Dam project on Saturday next, which after it is constructed would result in considerable portions of Indian territory in the adjoining areas being submerged and damaged."

This appears on the front page of *Statesman* of today. What is the position?

Shri Hem Barua: May I submit....

Mr. Speaker: I will call him after hearing the hon. Prime Minister.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: This question of the Karnafuli Dam was raised several years ago. Two and a half years ago it was formally considered at a ministerial level conference. Subsequently, there had been, I believe, four conferences between the representatives of Pakistan and India. We told Pakistan that we have no objection to their having that dam at Karnafuli even though as a result of it flooding might take place over a small part, a few miles, of Indian territory, but we must know exactly what part is going to be flooded; that is to say, there should be a survey as to where exactly the dam will be, how much it will affect our side and the question of compensation etc. would naturally arise. It was more or less agreed that this will take place. Subsequently, it was decided that the dam would be a little higher than previously thought of. Therefore, the flooding would be greater, over a wider area. That involved even more proper survey to know exactly what area would be flooded. This has been repeated several times. Now, in the last few weeks, we have learnt from the public press that they are going to start this scheme and that the President of Pakistan is supposed to visit the place to inaugurate the scheme. I do not know what inauguration means, whether it will mean that flooding will start then and how far it will go, but I understand that the dam is fairly ready.

As I said, we have no objection and if that scheme is to the advantage of Pakistan, we do not want to come in the way of the scheme. But we take strong exception to their taking any steps without reference to us, without the survey, without a decision about compensation etc. And among other things, we wanted some electric power for our use. All these things have not been decided, and they talk about starting the scheme. It is that to which we take strong exception,

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and we have been sending them letters. I do not remember the date but we sent them these letters in the last few weeks, some in the beginning of February, explaining our position to them that without the survey being completed, this should not be done. A little later we have again reminded them of this. We have had no reply to these protests yet.

Shri Hem Barua: We have raised on different occasions this matter on the floor of the House, as regards the construction of this Karnafuli dam by Pakistan, and we were never told what is the actual area that is going to be inundated by the reservoir of this dam. It was when Government agreed to the proposal of Pakistan in 1959 that they can have the dam that we had an idea that certain areas in the adjoining district would be flooded by the reservoir. Now comes the news that Pakistan has refused to survey or to give us an idea of the area that would be flooded by the reservoir of the dam, not to speak of paying compensation for the damage that is likely to be caused to our land. Now comes also the news that the dam will not be in the original site but that the dam is going to be of a bigger size and that it is likely, as the Prime Minister has said, that more areas would be inundated and more damage would be caused to our country.

I want to know from the Prime Minister, since Pakistan has taken a unilateral decision to construct the dam and inaugurate it on Saturday, what steps our Government propose to take to see that damage is not caused to our land, to our territory, and if it is caused what compensation they are going to pay, and whether this is going to be linked up with the agreement that we had with Pakistan in 1959 or not?

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat): Will the Prime Minister assure the House that before we enter into

any agreement we will be quite sure as to the scheme, the area to be inundated before we sign on the dotted line? Because, on more than one occasion it has happened that all the difficulties have arisen when it comes to a question of a general principle being implemented. It has happened in the case of Beru Bari: all our maps they have taken away, the survey has not been completed, and we do not know where we stand. And in the case of Karnafuli, what the Prime Minister has stated makes it even more clear that we did not know even about the actual site and about the actual size of the dam, what will be the area inundated, etc.; because, he says now that it is going to be moved to a higher site. If it is going to be so moved, is that what we have signed, or was it a general agreement on principle?

Therefore, I want to know whether in future we are going to sign an agreement without going into the actual scheme and without knowing exactly what will be its implications in practical terms in our territory.

Shri Prabhat Kar (Hooghly): We hear that on Saturday Pakistan is going to inaugurate this project. Whether there is an agreement or not as a result of the dam being opened, there will be certain areas which will be flooded. I want to know as regards the lands which will be flooded and the persons who will be affected by this flood, what exactly are the steps that the Government of India is going to take in respect of the land and the persons who will be affected by it.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There is no question of our not knowing the site: the site is absolutely known right from the beginning. You cannot have a dam anywhere you like. It is well known, and all the talks that have taken place previously were with the knowledge of the site. But, however well you may know the site, you have to survey, having regard to

the height of the reservoir, what ground it will cover and so on. Most of the land that would be covered is in Pakistan, but a bit of it crosses the border. How much it crosses will depend on the height of the reservoir.

It is not a very difficult matter. In every dam the engineers have a mark the areas, and we wanted them to do that. They have not done that. Roughly, it is our belief, and we are told by our engineers that the area covered will be eight to twelve square miles. And it is wooded area, I understand, not heavily populated. There are probably a few hundred persons living there.

Shri Hem Barua: It is populated.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Well, my information is that a few hundred persons live there. It is populated in that sense. Anyhow, whether there are a few hundred or a few thousand, proper arrangements should be made for their compensation, for their rehabilitation, etc. Those arrangements can only be made by our own Government, by the Assam Government. But, normally, it should have been settled what compensation should be given by the Pakistan Government, and the area defined, and then we could come to an agreement and we could look after the persons who are removed from there.

The Pakistan Government has chosen apparently to act unilaterally. There is no question of our signing anything on the dotted line or anywhere; because, up till now the talks consisted only of having a survey. The survey has not taken place, and we do not know exactly what they propose to do, whether the flooding of the area is going to begin. And even if it begins now it will take a year or two to cover the whole area.

We have protested strongly and the Assam Government has been warned to look after any losses caused to the human beings who live there.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is twelve miles or twelve square miles?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Obviously an area is in terms of square miles.

Shri Bangshi Thakur (Tripura—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): May I know whether it was decided between the two Governments, that is India and Pakistan, that power will be supplied to Tripura on a rental basis from this Karnafuli project? May I know whether it is a fact or not?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have not quite heard the question.

Mr. Speaker: He is asking whether there is an agreement between this Government and the Government of Pakistan that power should be supplied from the Karnafuli power house?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There is no agreement. The agreement stage has not arrived. But in the initial stages we consented to a certain small area; it was thought that it might be four or five square miles or something like that; and if it was covered we did not wish to come in way of a major hydro-electric scheme of theirs. Therefore, it is a normal practice for two countries that an agreement is arrived at about compensation, about various other things, and about supply of power. It was mentioned that power should be supplied by them to us and compensation should be paid. But nothing definite was settled.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: May I know whether on account of the decision that power will be supplied from the Karnafuli dam construction, the hydro-electric project in Tripura has been stopped?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It was understood that power would be supplied to Tripura and a little later further afield to Assam. There is no hard and fast arrangement. But in

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the talks between the engineers it was mentioned, and it was more or less agreed to. I do not know what the hon. Member means.

Mr. Speaker: I have heard sufficiently. There is a report in *The Statesman* to the effect: "India to revoke Karnafuli Dam Agreement: Official announcement regarding India's withdrawal from the agreement is likely to be made soon". Is there any truth in this?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Not revoking any arrangement; but we have made it clear to them that we reserve to ourselves the right to object to a part or whole of the project.

Mr. Speaker: They want to discuss it. What do the Government propose to do?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know what they propose to discuss. I have given all the facts. There is nothing more to give. I do not know what hon. Members can discuss about it either. There is no room for discussion about this scheme.

Shri Hem Barua: We do not want to discuss it. We are only interested in knowing what the Government is going to do in the face of the fact that Pakistan is going to proceed unilaterally in this matter. We heard that the agreement in 1959 was to this effect that they can proceed with their work on two conditions: firstly, the length or area to be inundated has to be surveyed; and secondly, they must pay compensation for that. Now that they have not honoured that—whether that agreement was signed or not is immaterial—I am interested in knowing what the Government propose to do in the face of this action.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Government will do what one Government does to another. We cannot do anything else. I do not know what the hon. Member has in view.

Shri Hem Barua: We would like to be enlightened.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have no doubt that compensation will be paid if our land is covered. I cannot be sure if any of our land would be covered. It is up to them to have their dam and their project. India comes in only in case some of our territory is covered by the flood waters. I am not yet sure that it will be covered.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: The Prime Minister said that it will be covered. Whether it is a bigger area or a smaller area, is the point.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That requires a survey. I think it will be covered within a few square miles: 5 or 6, at the most 12 square miles. Therefore, it has to be surveyed. What I can say is, it is up to them to answer and not to do anything which will affect our land.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: If they do not do it, what shall we do? After all, these people will be displaced. We cannot stop the waters. We have got to do something for the people.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That, as I said, the Assam Government has undertaken to look after them anyhow.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think any useful purpose will be served by a discussion of this matter. Possibly hon. Members want to drive away the water which comes on our land, if that is possible to do it, on account of the intransigence of Pakistan—they have not yet replied—by not caring even to make a survey of this land. It is between two neighbours. Whatever might be their differences, when they came to an agreement, they must do it. Evidently, what hon. Members want is if a device could be provided by which all this water which comes up on our land may be drained off without prejudice to us.

Beyond that, I do not know what the Government is expected to do. There is no purpose in allowing any more discussion on this matter. All that can be done is being done. I refuse to give my consent to this adjournment motion.

OIL AGREEMENT WITH ITALIAN FIRM

Mr. Speaker: Next: Shri P. G. Deb. What is it?

Shri P. G. Deb (Angul): The reason why I gave this adjournment motion is this. Though the Minister of Mines and Oil did not agree to disclose the details of the agreement between the Italian Oil Company and India, the very same details of the agreement have come out in today's Statesman. It surprises me. It is a hit on the privilege of the House. Therefore, I would ask through you an explanation from the Minister of Oil to let us know his attitude on this.

Shri Hem Barua: There is a Privilege Motion on this.

Mr. Speaker: I will come to that later. How does it appear when we wanted some time?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): I returned to the capital only this morning about 9 o'clock. Then I read this news in the Statesman. I made enquiries from my office, and I found out that they too knew nothing about it. Is there some journalistic arrangement between the correspondent of the Statesman sitting in Assam and the Italian capital that they get such information? Anyway, my secretariat is making enquiries into this. But, I would like to draw your attention, Sir, that what I read in the newspapers today—most of it has already been conveyed by me to the House some time in August or September. I do not remember the exact dates. The basis of the agreement arrived at between the two Governments was already indicated by me then. With regard to these details, I I do not know whether any points or details have been finally taken up or agreed upon between the two Gov-

ernments. Because, my secretariat too has no information. I would request you to allow me to say something finally tomorrow when I am going to make a statement on the basis of my discussion with you which took place yesterday.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I point out, the Statesman correspondent very clearly states the particular points which the Minister did not reveal to the House. Is that correct? He pin-points the two points on which there was some hesitation on the part of the Minister.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I do not remember any particular point which I might have withheld from the House the other day. I made a general statement expressing my view with regard to certain advantages that would accrue to the Government if we did not make public all these agreements that are before us in view of the fact that some more are to be negotiated. There was no particular specific point which I tried to withhold from the House on that day. I read in the Statesman today that certain points have been made out by the correspondent which somehow they got. I still do not know anything about that.

Shri P. G. Deb: May I know whether the officials of the Oil Refinery at Gauhati had given out this news?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Some of our officials have gone to Italy in connection with discussion and disposal of the details of the schemes about which I also made a statement a few months ago. I do not know whether they have even come back or not. I do not know whether they have sent any intimation to us making certain enquiries or telling us as to what they have approved or what they have done or not done. That is why I made this request that tomorrow when I come with that statement on the general aspect of the whole ques-