

## Selected Works of Jawaharlal Nehru

*Series II, Volume 64*

*1-30 November 1960*

### (b) China

#### **168. To Dato Abdul Razak bin Hussein: Subroto Mukherjee's Death<sup>1</sup>**

12 November 1960

Dear Dato Abdul Razak,

Thank you for your letter of the 10th November.<sup>2</sup> The death of Air Marshal Subroto Mukerjee<sup>3</sup> has indeed come to us as a great shock. Apart from his position as the top man of our Air Force, who helped to build it up, he was a very fine man, able, patriotic and devoted to his work.

After his death there was a post-mortem in Tokyo and the doctors gave it as their opinion after this post-mortem that he had been choked to death by a piece of meat that had got stuck in his air passage. He had arrived in Tokyo only a little while before, and one of our officers there took him to a restaurant for dinner. I think that, in the circumstances, one must accept the verdict of the doctors.

You refer to the sabotage of the Kashmir Princess.<sup>4</sup> This was a great

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<sup>1</sup> Letter to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, Malaya.

<sup>2</sup> This letter has not been traced.

<sup>3</sup> See item 80.

<sup>4</sup> "Kashmir Princess," an Air India International Constellation aircraft, while on a chartered flight from Hong Kong to Djakarta carrying an advance party of the Chinese delegation to the Asian-African Conference at Bandung, had crashed in the Indian Ocean on 11 April

tragedy. You are wrong, however, in saying that this was caused by some Red Chinese. It was, in fact, aimed at a delegation from China headed by Chou En-lai who was to have travelled in it. At the last moment, Chou En-lai could not come that way, but his party travelled by it. The airliner had, in fact, been chartered by the Chinese Government for their delegation to the Bandung Conference. There could be no question of their trying to destroy their own people. As a result of a careful enquiry made by the Hong Kong authorities as well as by our own Intelligence people, the man who committed this sabotage was discovered. He was on the pay of some people from Formosa and he fled to Formosa before he could be arrested. There he is still for aught I know.

Yours sincerely,  
Jawaharlal Nehru

### **In the Lok Sabha: China-India Border Talks<sup>5</sup>**

*[Translation begins]*

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state, with reference to the answer given to Starred Question No. 498 dated 18 August 1960, what progress has been made in the discussions between the officials of India and China regarding the boundary dispute between the two countries.<sup>6</sup>

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):  
Indian and Chinese officials resumed their talks on August 19, 1960 and

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1955, as a result of sabotage.

<sup>5</sup>14 November 1960. Oral Answers, Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. 47, 14-25 November 1960, cols 5-11.

<sup>6</sup> See fn 65 in this section.

they were in session in Delhi till October 5, 1960. Since the teams found that they could not complete the examination of the evidence by the end of September they requested the Prime Ministers of India and China to extend the time limit. This was agreed to and the teams are now meeting and holding a third session in Rangoon, where they will complete the work and finalise the report. The teams expect to finish their work by the end of November, 1960. Thereafter the report of both sides will be submitted for consideration to the two Governments.

*[Translation ends]*

May I read it in English too, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Indian and Chinese officials resumed their talks on August 19, 1960 and they were in session in Delhi till October 5, 1960. Since the teams found that they could not complete the examination of the evidence by the end of September they requested the Prime Ministers of India and China to extend the time limit. This was agreed to and the teams are now meeting and holding a third session in Rangoon, where they will complete the work and finalise the report. The teams expect to finish their work by the end of November, 1960. Thereafter the report of both sides will be submitted for consideration to the two Governments.

*[Translation begins]*

Shri Bhakt Darshan: May I know whether the Government of India is confident that an honourable agreement would be reached between the two countries, taking into consideration the speed and manner in which the talks have proceeded between the representatives of the two countries.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot answer this question because we have not received any report. Moreover, it is not proper to say anything when the talks are in progress. The details and verbatim reports of whatever talks that have taken place consist of thousands of pages.

[Translation ends]

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: Is it a fact that the teams are supposed to adjourn for a period and then reassemble to give their final decision? In that case, when they adjourn, what is the new material that they expect to examine?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: They have adjourned in the past. They are meeting now. There is no present proposal for them to adjourn now. They will go on till they finish the job. That is the idea.

Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:<sup>7</sup> May I know whether Government have any indication from the official talks whether McMahon Line will be accepted by China as boundary between India and China?

Mr. Speaker: It is too premature to say.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot deal with such questions. They will enter into the subject of the talks.

Mr. Speaker: Why not we wait till the report is received?

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a television interview given by Mr. Chou-En-Lai to British correspondent where he has made specific accusations against India of

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<sup>7</sup> Congress.

intransigence, of provoking armed conflicts with China, of making territorial aggression against China, and if so, what steps Government have so far taken to put the record straight?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have seen this statement as reported in the papers. That is a repetition of what has been said on behalf of China during the last year or more. The record, so far as we are concerned, has been put straight many times very clearly in the papers that have been placed before the House as well as, I take it, in the discussions that are going and in the examination of evidence between the two official teams.

Shri Vajpayee:<sup>8</sup> May I know why Rangoon has been selected as the next venue for future talks and whether there is any proposal to finalise the talks at Rangoon?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Rangoon is selected for the third series of talks as it was considered convenient. The original suggestion for Rangoon came for [sic] us and it was accepted by the Chinese Government. As I said just now in answer to another question, it is hoped, during this Rangoon session of the talks, the examination of all the evidence will be completed and some kind of a report will be presented. That is, the work of the official teams will presumably be over by then.

*[Translation begins]*

Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:<sup>9</sup> Possibly the Indian delegation has reported to Prime Minister about the talks held so far. Do the talks held so far hold out the prospect of some decision being arrived at?

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<sup>8</sup> A.B. Vajpayee, Jan Sangh.

<sup>9</sup> See fn 69 in this section.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have just said that it is neither possible to answer this question nor am I in a position to do so, because the officials have not been asked-and it is not their right also---to talk about an agreement. The officials of both the sides see all the papers of the evidences, whatever it is; they examine them and state their respective viewpoints. After collecting all the evidences, they will report to us their opinions about them. It is the prerogative of Government to conclude an agreement. It is not for officials to try to solve big questions.

*[Translation ends]*

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: After the interview of the Chinese Prime Minister with the British journalists, is it the expectation of Government that any worthwhile results will come out of the talks further?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It has been put twice before and I have answered this question. I will add that it is not a question of any expectation. We are going through a process now of examination through our officials of all the possible evidence on this subject from this side or that side. It is our opinion, it has been of course, that this evidence is fundamentally in our favour. That is our opinion. Otherwise, we would not have taken up the attitude we have done. What the ultimate result will be depends on many factors.

Shri P.K. Deo:<sup>10</sup> In view of the Prime Minister's reply to the previous question that some incursions have taken place pending these talks, may know if any useful purpose will be served by pursuing these talks further?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Those petty incursions have nothing to do with these

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<sup>10</sup> Ganatantra Parishad.

talks or, indeed, with any other development there. They are very petty. Not desirable, but very petty all the same. They have nothing to do with wider questions. We cannot function in this way, that is, upset the border policies that have been pursued because some local patrol misbehaved.

Shri Khadilkar: May I know whether the Government, in some measure, shares the optimism expressed by the Burmese Prime Minister U Nu regarding the outcome of these talks and an amicable settlement soon?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not think it will be proper for me to discuss even indirectly what our greatly respected friend the Burmese Prime Minister has said on this subject.

Shri Hem Barua: In the light of the interview given by Mr. Chou En-lai to the British correspondent in the television set and in view of the fact, as admitted by the Prime Minister just now, that there has been a systematic campaign on the part of China describing this as a mere dispute, may I know what steps Government have taken to establish that this is not a mere dispute, but this is territorial aggression by China on our country, before the world?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member knows that we have discussed this matter many times what we have done and not done. An aggression is also a dispute. The fact that it is referred to as a dispute does not take away from the fact that it may be an aggression. It is obvious that you cannot expect the Chinese Government to admit something that they are holding out against. It is inevitable that they should express their case whenever they have the chance to do so. They take exception sometimes to what they call a campaign in India against them.

Shri Hem Barua: I want to know whether the word 'aggression' is not deeper in connotation than the word 'dispute'?

Shri B. Das Gupta: While these deliberations are going on between India and Chinese officials in regard to the Sino-Indian border dispute in Rangoon, the Prime Minister of Burma has come to India and he gave out that he was going to talk to the Prime Minister something regarding the Sino- Indian border dispute. May I know whether he had any talk regarding this or whether that deliberation has any connection with his visit in India?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have not completely grasped the question, but in so far as I have understood it, I might inform the hon. Member that the visit of the Prime Minister of Burma to India has nothing to do with the talks going between these officials in Rangoon. It was accidental that they were there. Nor indeed did the Prime Minister of Burma and I discuss that matter. It is completely right, of course, as would be in any case if I may say so with all respect, for the Prime Minister of Burma to express the hope that this would be settled. That is a sort of thing which all of us always hope. If I have to speak about the Burma-China dispute, I would inevitably say that I hope it would be settled.

### **170. In the Lok Sabha: Air Space Violation by China<sup>11</sup>**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has rejected India's note on Air Space Violations;<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> 21 November 1960. Oral Answers, Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. 47, 14-25 November 1960, cols 1226-1232.

- (b) if so, the details of the same; and  
(c) any further action taken in the matter?<sup>13</sup>

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) Yes, Sir; that is the case in regard to the protests made up to 16th September, which is the last letter of the Chinese Government.<sup>14</sup>

(b) and (c). In this connection, attention is invited to White Paper No. IV laid by the Prime Minister on the Table of the House on the 14th November, 1960.

Shri Bhakt Darshan: As all our protests have been rather ignored so far, has the Government considered or is considering the taking of any stringent measures in this connection?

Shri Krishna Menon: Government has made a protest in regard to violations after that time which is seen in paragraph 3 of the latest letter from the Government which the Prime Minister laid on the Table of the House.<sup>15</sup> In regard to violations by helicopter on the 18th September, we have received no reply to that so far.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know, apart from mere protests, whether any further action has been taken or not.

Shri Krishna Menon: I said we have not received a reply to these protests.

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<sup>12</sup> Of 22 August 1960, White Paper IV, pp. 28-30.

<sup>13</sup> Question by Bhakt Darshan, Congress, and ten others, six Congress, two PSP, one Forward Bloc (Marxist) and one Ganatantra Parishad.

<sup>14</sup> See note of 16 September 1960, White Paper IV, pp. 34-35.

<sup>15</sup> See note of 24 October 1960, White Paper IV, pp. 39-40.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:<sup>16</sup> The hon. Minister has drawn the attention of the House to White Paper No. IV. In this Paper, the Government of India has urged on the Government of China to instruct their air people not to intrude into Indian airspace, to which the Chinese replied that this action of the Government of India was very unfriendly, and even after 18th September, when the Chinese helicopter flew into our area, the Chinese planes have violated air space in India near Nathu La and Jalap La about nine times. May I know what action do the Government propose to take regarding that, and if the Chinese do not reply, what will the Government do?

Shri Krishna Menon: That is what I said. I am not prepared either to accept or reject the particulars of that. In the letter from the External Affairs Ministry on the 24th October, in paragraph 3, these two violations are referred to, and as I said a little while ago, no reply has been received to these protests.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In this White Paper it is said that Indian planes do not go towards the Sikkim area, and recently, the Chinese planes violated Nathu La and Jalap La air space about nine times. May I know whether we will go beyond what is written in this White Paper or allow them to violate our air space as many times as they want to?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): In regard to past protests the Chinese Government have factually denied this and suggested, I think somewhere, that if such planes do go there, they must belong to some other country. In fact, they have indicated the name of that county. There is the factual denial of that.

It is not very easy to identify these planes-these planes are not identifiable-

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<sup>16</sup> Congress.

in these heights, about 16,000 ft., at which they fly at night. It is undoubtedly open to us to shoot them down. We are perfectly entitled to do that and we may do that whenever we have a chance-v-I am not saying we should not-but at the present moment, we are trying to pursue this matter through diplomatic means, and trying to get trace of any plane and trying to get hold of it. There is no particular action that I can envisage. We try to pursue the plane and find out what it is and bring it down, which we are perfectly prepared to do whenever we can do it. But normally, you have only a fast glimpse at night, usually some light or other, which does not tell you what type of plane it is or whose it is except that it is a fast plane flying at that height.

Shri A.M. Tariq:<sup>17</sup> May I know from the hon. Prime Minister the name of the country which the Chinese have indicated in their letter.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is all given in the White Paper.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In this White Paper it is written that His Excellency Chou En-lai told our Prime Minister that some American planes might be flying over that area. The American planes can only go either from Bangkok or from Pakistan. While flying from Bangkok or over any other eastern area, they will have to fly over Burma and the Indian territory or Bhutanese territory. May I know whether on any occasion the Government of India noticed those planes either in the Indian area, Assam or Bengal--or over South Bhutan area, or, whether the planes were visible only in the northern side of Sikkim, Bhutan or Uttar Pradesh and the Ladakh area?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: What Prime Minister Chou En-lai said to me was

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<sup>17</sup> Congress.

more or less what the hon. Member has said, with a slight difference, namely, that these planes probably-he was not sure--come from Formosa or Taiwan or from Bangkok. These two places he mentioned, because, naturally, flying there, they must cross Burma somewhere or other, or they may even cross Chinese territory- the mainland of China-and some part or corner of Assam might be crossed. I do not think they have been noticed by us up there. Such particulars as we could give are, I believe, in the White Paper.

Shri Hem Barua:<sup>18</sup> May I know how far the allegations made by the Chinese Government that Indian protests in relation to air space violations are rashly made, without ascertaining the facts,-whether correct or not,- are true? In view of the fact that from December 1959 up till today, the Chinese score in air space violations is more than a century? May I also know whether our protests in each of these cases were rashly made, as alleged by China? Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. Member mean to say that any Government will be so rash? The other Government always accuses us.

Shri Hem Barua: My submission is ...

Mr. Speaker: There is no question of any submission. The hon. Member wants to know from this Government whether the Government has made rash allegations against the Chinese Government. If we make an accusation, the others will naturally say, "they are rash."

Shri Hem Barua: There is another thing also. They have said, "without ascertaining the facts." As I said, the number of our air space violations is more than half a century. Does this allegation apply to each of those cases?

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<sup>18</sup> PSP.

This is an insult done to a nation.

Shri Nath Pai:<sup>19</sup> The White Paper enumerates more than 100 cases of air space violations allegedly by China. At page 34, the Chinese Government, apart from refuting the charges of the Government of India, have challenged the Government of India to bring down their planes if they are found across the air space of India. What do the Government of India propose to do with regard to this challenge? This challenge is at page 34: "If you find our planes, please bring them down."<sup>20</sup>

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: What they have said is, "If you find not our planes, but any plane which is not yours, bring it down", the suggestion being they are not their planes; they are planes of other countries and they will be very happy if we brought them down. That was the suggestion made by them.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> Bapu Nath Pai, PSP.

<sup>20</sup> The Chinese note of 16 September 1960, states: "It should be pointed out that during the period of the talks between the Prime Ministers of the two countries in Delhi, Premier Chou En-lai told His Excellency Prime Minister Nehru on April 25 that regarding the flights of aircraft discovered in the Sino-Indian border area as informed by the Indian Government to the Chinese Government, it had been found through investigation by the Chinese Government that these were aircraft of the United States. They took off from Bangkok, passed over Burma or China, and crossed the Sino-Indian border to penetrate deep into China's interior to parachute Chinese secret agents, weapons, supplies and wireless sets, and then flew back to Bangkok, again passing over the Sino-Indian border. Premier Chou En-lai assured His Excellency Prime Minister Nehru at the time that the Chinese Government would never allow its own aircraft to fly over the border and said that the Chinese Government had already sent a note to the Burmese Government, stating that should Burma discover any unidentified aircraft in its air space, it was fully entitled to take any counter-measure, either forcing them to land or shooting them down. Should China discover such aircraft in its air space, it would do likewise. Premier Chou En-lai then expressed his belief that India would do the same." White Paper IV, pp. 34-35.

<sup>21</sup> See also Appendix 51.

I have just dealt with that question. It is not a very easy matter. We will certainly do it where we can do it. But in the middle of the night, suddenly a light is seen for about 1 or 2 seconds and off it goes. It is a question of seconds. Either one has a vast armada in the skies as they have in Europe, all the time flying thousands of planes to check-that is not feasible-or else, one takes the chance. I might say that these reports are often about the same plane being seen at various places, so that it may be called six reports or just probably one seen here and there.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:<sup>22</sup> May I know how many instances of air space violation have been noticed since 15th September?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot say offhand; the information is given up to the date of printing of the White Paper.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:<sup>23</sup> This question has been addressed to the Minister of Defence. The Prime Minister has just told us that it is very difficult to bring down planes flying at that height. That may be so, but are the Government satisfied from the defence point of view that we are in a position to intercept them-not to shoot them-by our planes if necessary?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That is to say, we will try to do it. We may succeed sometimes; we may fail sometimes. We cannot guarantee it.

Shri P.K. Deo:<sup>24</sup> May I know if there is no installation or radar at our frontiers by which we can detect planes much before we can see them?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not think my colleague, the Defence Minister,

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<sup>22</sup> Congress.

<sup>23</sup> RSP.

<sup>24</sup> Ganatantra Parishad.

will be prepared to say in public where we have our radar installations.

Shri Karni Singhji:<sup>25</sup> As soon as the aircraft enter our territory, do we have a chain of radar stations, the first station warning the next station, so that retaliatory measures can be taken?

Shri Krishna Menon: I am not prepared to deny that there are such stations. But as the Prime Minister explained, it is not sufficient for us to spot the plane, but to get there, unless you have a whole fleet of planes in the air at that height, it is not possible.

Shri Karni Singhji: I was asking about radar stations. Suppose one plane enters our territory. The first radar station picks it up and the next station is warned, so that retaliatory measures may be taken. Is that done?

Shri Krishna Menon: I do not deny that it is not done.

Shri M.R. Krishna:<sup>26</sup> It is said that some of the countries like Pakistan, in order to prevent their air space violation, keep some planes high up in the sky. May I know whether that practice is followed by our air force also?

Mr. Speaker: He says in Pakistan to prevent such incursions, some planes are always kept in the air. Is the practice followed there?

Shri Krishna Menon: I have no knowledge of what the Pakistan Government does.

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<sup>25</sup>Independent.

<sup>26</sup> Congress.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the statement made by the Prime Minister in reply to Shri Nath Pai's question that these planes are seen in a flash and the same plane is seen at various places and the identity of planes is not established, may I know whether this only corroborates the suggestion that our protests are made without ascertaining actual facts?

Shri Vajpayee: Apart from sending protests to China, first a mild protest and then a strong protest, may I know what other steps Government propose to take to put an end to these air space violations?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There are no other steps one can take except to shoot them down.

### **171. In the Lok Sabha: Anti-Indian Propaganda in Border Districts<sup>27</sup>**

Mr. Speaker: There is a third adjournment motion which reads thus: "The situation of insecurity and subversion emerging out of the fact, as reported in The Statesman, dated 21st November, 1960, that 'the Communists have stepped up their propaganda in the newly-created northern border districts ... The propaganda being conducted through speeches, hand-written and printed literature and at secret meetings tends to justify the Chinese territorial claims on Indian soil.'"

Has the hon. Minister anything to say regarding this kind of propaganda on the border?

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati):<sup>28</sup> May I make a submission on this, before the

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<sup>27</sup> 21 November 1960. Motions, Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. 47 14-25 November 1960 cols 1353-1361.

Prime Minister makes a statement? The whole of this northern border is honeycombed with secret societies and anti-social and treasonable elements and there are agents of Chinese expansionism that persist in the perversity: calculated perversity, I would say, that in the matter of this dispute, it is India and not China that is in the wrong; and Kalimpong, that was described by Peking once as the command centre of the rebellion in Tibet has of late, become the spy centre for a particular country. There, all kinds of dyeing and cleaning shops, eating-houses etc. are springing up like mushrooms, not ostensibly for business purposes, because they worked as centres of espionage. At the same time, posters and subversive literature are circulated in this area and in the adjoining sensitive areas. There has been a systematic campaign against India in this particular area. If you visit Darjeeling and go to a tea estate there, in the houses of a certain community, you will find only three pictures, the picture of Durga, the picture of Kali and the picture of Mao Tse Tung. This is the atmosphere that we are having in the northern areas.

In spite of the statement that the hon. Prime Minister made with pointed reference to this during his reply to the foreign affairs debate in August in this House<sup>29</sup> and in the other House,<sup>30</sup> Government have left these areas open for such infiltration. And we are afraid that a national tragedy might occur out of this negligence or because of this negligence on the part of Government.

Therefore, I want this motion to be admitted as an adjournment motion, and there must be discussion on it.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):  
As the hon. Member has said, I myself drew the attention of the House in

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<sup>28</sup> PSP.

<sup>29</sup> In fact, on 1 September 1960 in the Lok Sabha; see SWJN/SS/63/item 295

<sup>30</sup> On 18 August 1960 in the Rajya Sabha; see SWJN/SS/62/item 262.

August last, to certain attempts being made by persons, presumed to be members of the Communist Party, in doing propaganda in these border areas.

So far as this particular motion is concerned, it refers more particularly to the newly-created northern border districts. The hon. Member, however, has spoken chiefly about Kalimpong and other places.

Shri Hem Barua: I said, particularly Kalimpong.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: May be, I am not sure. So far as I know, there is no district in Kalimpong newly created. In fact, it never struck me that it might apply to Kalimpong at all. Of course, we are aware of Kalimpong, and the West Bengal Government is constantly in touch with the situation, and they take such steps as they consider necessary. This particular motion refers rather to the areas in Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh etc.

It is a fact that this kind of propaganda has continued to take place there. After I made that statement in August here, there was much objection raised in a particular press connected with the Communist Party, to my having made that statement here; it said that it was not justified. The fact is that probably this kind of thing has continued, though on a somewhat less public scale; previously, it was rather public, then it became, I cannot call it exactly secret, but still it has toned down somewhat, and more of it was in small meetings; and the propaganda was of the type mentioned by the hon. Member, mostly, in regard to frontier troubles with China, that China was right, that our Government of India was wrong, that China wanted a settlement, but we do not want a settlement and so on and so forth, and that a basic proposition is that whatever the facts etc. may be, a socialist country, that is, a socialist country like China, cannot possibly commit aggression at all; that is a basic assumption with which probably most hon.

Members here will not agree. However, this kind of thing has continued.

Mr. Speaker: Does it mean that whatever they take is their own property?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No. They are so virtuous that they can never commit sin; it means that; it means that virtue is inherent in them.

Shri Vajpayee: They only liberate, they do not commit aggression.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I think this matter has come very well before the notice of the State Governments concerned. They are quite aware of this; they are taking action, wherever they think necessary. If any further action is necessary, they or the Government of India will certainly take it. They have taken some action in regard to individuals or others.

But I should like to point out that while all this is happening there, to say that it is creating a situation of insecurity or subversion in the border is not correct. It is being done by odd individuals making speeches or having private talks or distributing some paper etc. That certainly, I admit. But there is no question of insecurity in our border areas, or of subversion being noticeable in those areas.

I do not know what profit it will do to have a discussion in an adjournment motion on this question.

Mr. Speaker: Tomorrow, we are having the foreign affairs debate ...

Shri H.N. Mukerjee (Calcutta-Central)<sup>31</sup> rose-

Mr. Speaker: I have heard the hon. Member who has tabled the

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<sup>31</sup> CPI.

adjournment motion.

Shri H.N. Mukerjee: The name of the Communist Party has been brought in by way of an adjournment motion....

Mr. Speaker: It is there in the adjournment motion.

Shri H.N. Mukerjee: I do not wish to associate the Prime Minister with the practice of Communist-baiting wherever a chance offers itself. I do want to say, since the party's activities have been mentioned, that on the last occasion, in this House, I had asked the Prime Minister to specify concretely the instances where it has come to his notice that members of the Communist Party are taking part in subversive propaganda in the border. It is very necessary for us also, as members of the Communist party: who among us, if any, are conducting the kind of propaganda which is sometimes being alleged against us.

An Hon. Member: Oh! you do not know?

Shri H.N. Mukerjee: On that occasion, I did not get a concrete reply, and today I am told that perhaps the methods of these allegedly communist people have changed, and they are behaving privately, and not in as public a manner as before.

Now, all these are allegations in the air. I want to put it as quietly and as mildly as possible: we are functioning here and we are here to answer whatever charges are made against us. If the charges are made against us in the courts of law of our country-it is open to anybody to do so--we can defend ourselves, if that becomes necessary. But by way of adjournment motions, by way of answers to the kind of discussion which is started by

certain Members of this House in this part of the House to go on making reflections on the Communist Party, when we have made our position very clear that we ourselves want to know who among us, if any, are conducting treasonable propaganda in private or in public in these border areas, does not appear to be proper. So I do not see why this kind of proceeding should persist. Hence I would beg of you to exercise your discretion in this matter and see that unnecessarily and gratuitously the waters are not muddied by references which help nobody at all.

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri G.B. Pant): May I ask Shri H.N. Mukerjee whether the Communist Party has any members or workers in these areas and whether any inquiry has been made by the Party itself as to the sort of activities they are conducting there?

Shri H.N. Mukerjee: I may tell you, as the hon. Minister has put this question in the House to me, actually the Secretary of our Party, as far as I know- I have got a copy of the letter-has written to Prime Minister so that we can get some assistance from the Prime Minister in finding it out. Because as far as we are concerned, we do not know of anybody in our ranks who is conducting subversive propaganda. If there are any, the Home Minister with his danda is there to do whatever he can against us.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Sasaram):<sup>32</sup> Recently the Communist Party has put forward a demand that an autonomous State should be created in Northern Bengal. My esteemed friend, Shri H.N. Mukerjee, also went there and he advocated it.

Mr. Speaker: What State: A separate autonomous northern State?

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<sup>32</sup> Congress.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Yes. My hon. friend, Shri H.N. Mukerjee, also went there and addressed several meetings and there he has advocated it. I would like to know from him what sort of autonomy he wants to be given to Northern Bengal, whether it is going to be of the Chinese or Russian type.

Shri H.N. Mukerjee: There is no question-I never advocated it--Of the separation of certain areas of West Bengal or the Gurkhas, Nepalese-speaking people who form about 80 percent of the population there. There is no question of the separation of that area from West Bengal. But there is a long-standing demand on the part of the Gurkhas of that region that there should be inside the State of West Bengal a kind of regional autonomous arrangement (Interruptions). In view of recent happenings in Assam and the talk about amendment of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution, the Gurkhas today are very keen-they are naturally-to have in their area an autonomous arrangement. Congress Members of Parliament, including Shri Manaen,<sup>33</sup> speaking about it in this House have supported this idea of regional autonomy for the Gurkhas but always inside the State of West Bengal. Because a particular paper, which I shall not name, absolutely falsely says that there has been propaganda about the separation of this area from West Bengal, my hon. friend, Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, who is supposed to be well-informed, puts this question. This is the demand of the people of that area supported by the Congress Party, the Communist Party and also the PSP ... (Interruptions). This is a demand to be examined in the present context of our country.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether Government intend to introduce any measure to put a curb on such activities in the entire northern

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<sup>33</sup> T. Manaen, Congress.

area?

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:<sup>34</sup> That is the main point (Interruptions).

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member opposite reminded me that he had previously also asked me to give particulars. That is true. I had hesitated to give a list of names and other things. Normally it is not done. But I have here two or three, not from the list, but they happen to be here, and I shall read them out. Apart from this, I should like to point out that I am not used to baiting the Communist Party or any other Party. What I said was that even the Communist Party, as is well-known, is at the present moment pulling in different directions. The Communist Party of Bengal-I speak naturally subject to correction-is pulling in one direction, opposed to the general wishes expressed by the all-India party. So also I think the Communist Party of Punjab, microscopic as it is, is pulling in a different direction again. I am just mentioning one or two names rather reluctantly. But I do not want this to be treated as a kind of precedent for the future. "At the District Executive Committee meeting of the CPI held on October 8 at Darjeeling, S.N. Mazumdar, MLA, of the Communist Party urged CPI workers to conduct propaganda on the Sino-Indian border issue on the lines that China would never attack India and any propaganda to the contrary was designed to bring the CPI into disrepute that China had granted regional autonomy to the minority communities and she was manning her borders to meet likely aggression by America through Indian territory; and that China would help India in the event of an attack on India by Pakistan." "At a secret meeting of CPI workers held at Garhwal on April 18, 1960, Krishna Bhatt, endorsed the claim of China over certain parts of India and said that there were two villages near Joshimath in Chamoli District namely Chanyee and

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<sup>34</sup> CPI.

Thanyee, which clearly indicated that these areas were under Chinese occupation at one time."

"At a secret meeting of the Party held at Simla on 14th September 1960 Kameshwar Pandit, Secretary of the Himachal Pradesh Council said that India should give concessions to the Chinese in Ladakh by acknowledging their suzerainty over the disputed area through which the Chinese had constructed a road, while on the eastern border, China should withdraw her claim to the territory situated across the MacMahon Line in India."

I have casually mentioned two or three cases, but this is the nature of the cases through which information reaches us in considerable numbers from time to time. It is because of that that I made the statement I had previously made.

### **To Pan Tzu-li: Thank You for Birthday Greetings<sup>35</sup>**

22 November 1960

My dear Ambassador,

It was good of you to send me a message of congratulations on the occasion of my birthday, and I thank you for it. I entirely agree with you that we should endeavour to cooperate in the great cause of world peace and for the maintenance of friendly relations between India and China.

Yours sincerely,  
Jawaharlal Nehru

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<sup>35</sup> Letter to the Ambassador of China.

### 173. In the Rajya Sabha: Border Disputes<sup>36</sup>

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Chinese team of experts which recently visited India in connection with the Indo-Chinese border disputes has completed its work; and if so, what is the outcome of the labours of the Indo- Chinese experts;
- (b) whether it is a fact that while as the experts were busy in examining documentary records, the Chinese had been consolidating their occupations across the India side of the border; and
- (c) if so, what action Government have taken against such activities of the Chinese?<sup>37</sup>

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) Indian and Chinese officials resumed their talks on August 19, 1960 and they were in session in Delhi till October 5, 1960. Since the teams found that they could not complete the examination of the evidence by the end of September, they requested the Prime Ministers of India and China to extend the time limit. This was agreed to and the teams are now meeting and holding a third session in Rangoon, where they will complete the work and finalise the report. The teams expect to finish their work by the end of November, 1960. Thereafter the report of both sides will be submitted for consideration to the two Governments.

(b) Government have no information.

(c ) Does not arise.

Shri Maheswar Naik: May I know as to whether any improvement has been

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<sup>36</sup> 28 November 1960. Oral Answers, Rajya Sabha Debates, Vol. 31, Nos 1-10, 28 November - 9 December 1960, cols 29-31.

<sup>37</sup> Question by Maheswar Naik, Congress.

noticed in respect of the Chinese attitude towards India since the talks started?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: May I slightly amend my colleague's reply about the date? It was originally suggested that they should finish by the end of this month, but the latest information is that they will probably take a week or so more, a week more in December.

I do not think there is any change noticeable in the relations between India and China on this issue.

Shri Maheswar Naik: May I know whether Government are satisfied that under the garb of protracted talks China is not consolidating her position in the occupied portions of India?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Under the garb of talks? It was at our instance that these talks have been held. We made the proposal and we are continuing. It is essential that those talks should be held because there is no alternative to talks except war. I cannot say anything about consolidation but that applies to both sides.

Shri Gopikrishna Vijaivargiya:<sup>38</sup> May I know as to whether some comments in the Rangoon press have come to the notice of the Government in regard to the Chinese attitude? They have said that the Chinese attitude in regard to Sikkim and Bhutan is impeding the negotiations at Rangoon.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: These talks have nothing to do with this issue. There are no negotiations going on in Rangoon, and it is not the business of the official team to negotiate. They are only considering the past evidence--data,

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<sup>38</sup> Congress.

maps, records, revenue papers, all these multitudes. They are not discussing present happenings but the basis for the claims of either party.

Dr. Raghbir Singh:<sup>39</sup> May I know the reason for the parties meeting in Rangoon?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: They are meeting in Rangoon at the request of the Government of India.

Shri Faridul Haq Ansari:<sup>40</sup> The hon. Prime Minister stated just now that both sides are consolidating. May I know as to whether it is or it is not a fact that China is consolidating on Indian territory?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot say they are doing, but wherever they may be, they may consolidate. I do not know what the hon. Member means by consolidation in those areas. I do not think that very much difference is likely to be made by this kind of thing, things being what they are in those areas.

(c) Tibet

#### **174. At the Cabinet: Refugees<sup>41</sup>**

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<sup>39</sup> Congress.

<sup>40</sup> PSP.

<sup>41</sup> From Minutes of Cabinet Meeting, 2 November 1960, chaired by Nehru. MHA, File No. 19/23/60-F I, p. 17/correspondence; also available in Cabinet Secretariat, GOI, File No. 34/9/CF/60.

Prime Minister informed Members of the Cabinet that arrangements were being made to settle a substantial number of Tibetan refugees on some land in Mysore State. Prime Minister also mentioned that he had been informed by the Swiss Ambassador<sup>42</sup> that some Swiss organisations proposed to establish some kind of a Buddhist cultural centre or a monastery in Switzerland to serve as a centre of Tibetan culture and that a few Tibetan Lamas may be taken to that country for this purpose. Prime Minister saw no objection to these proposals.

### **In the Lok Sabha: Refugees<sup>43</sup>**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state?

- (a) whether it is a fact that about 600 Tibetans fled recently with their flocks of sheep numbering about 1500 from the Chinese-occupied area of Ladakh into Indian territory;
- (b) if so, full facts about the matter; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government in connection with these Tibetan refugees?<sup>44</sup>

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon) (a) and (b). The total number of refugees who have entered Ladakh from Tibet between March-April, 1959 and September, 1960 is 648. Most of them have brought their livestock with them.

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<sup>42</sup> Jacques-Albert Cottat, Swiss Ambassador to India, March 1960 till July 1964.

<sup>43</sup> 14 November 1960. Written Answers, Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. 47, 14-25 November 1960, cols 53-54.

<sup>44</sup> Question by Ila Pal Choudhuri, Congress, and five others, two Forward Bloc (Marxist), two CPI and one PSP.

(c) Some of them have found employment on road construction work in Ladakh. Others have been moved away from the border and settled with their livestock on land in Ladakh itself.

### **In the Lok Sabha: Refugees<sup>45</sup>**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of money which has been spent up to date on Dalai Lama and his party in India;
- (b) the amount of money which has been spent up to date for the rehabilitation of the Tibetan refugees in the different camps in India; and
- (c) the total number of Tibetan refugees who have left the camps by now?<sup>46</sup>

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):

- (a) Rs. 5,80,368 has been spent on the Dalai Lama and his party up to the end of September, 1960.
- (b) Rs. 51,87,196 has been spent on the relief and rehabilitation of the Tibetan refugees.
- (c) 17,012 Tibetan refugees have left Transit Camps for employment purposes.

### **In the Lok Sabha: Schools<sup>47</sup>**

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<sup>45</sup> 14 November 1960. Written Answers, Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. 47, 14-25 November 1960, cols 57-58.

<sup>46</sup> Question by Chintamani Panigrahi, Congress, and two other Congress MPs.

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1751 on the 4th April, 1960<sup>48</sup> and state:

(a) the progress made by the Tibetan Refugees Educational Institution set up at Mussoorie; and

(b) whether it is sufficient to meet their needs?<sup>49</sup>

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):

(a) and (b). From 50 a few months ago the number of Tibetan students in the School has increased to 252. The number of teachers-all Tibetan refugees with the exception of the Hindi teacher who is from Garhwal and had been in Tibet for several years-is at present 6 in addition to the Principal. The School has sent 10 of its senior boys to the Literacy House at Lucknow for teachers' training. The School at Mussoorie is inadequate for fulfilling the needs of all the Tibetan children in India. There are about 1000 refugee children and it will be necessary to set up two more schools. A special Educational Officer has examined this problem and his report is under consideration.

### **In the Lok Sabha: Citizenship<sup>50</sup>**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of properties purchased by Tibetans in Punjab during 1960

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<sup>47</sup> 14 November 1960. Written Answers, Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. 47, 14-25 November 1960, cols 58-59.

<sup>48</sup> See SWJN/SS/59/item 161.

<sup>49</sup> Question by D.C. Sharma, Congress.

<sup>50</sup> 17 November 1960. Written Answers, Lok Sabha Debates, Vol 47, 14-25 November 1960, col. 847.

and the value thereof; and

(b) whether those Tibetans have obtained the citizenship rights in India?<sup>51</sup>

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):

(a) No immovable property has been purchased by any Tibetan in the Punjab during 1960.

(b) No Tibetan refugee has been granted Indian citizenship so far.

### **In the Lok Sabha: Delegation to the UN<sup>52</sup>**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tibetan Delegation to the U.N.O. asked for any facility from Government; and

(b) how much foreign exchange was given to them?<sup>53</sup>

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):

(a) Three representatives of the Dalai Lama requested the Government for travel documents and foreign exchange;

(b) Each of them was given foreign exchange equivalent to Rs. 7,500/-

### **In the Lok Sabha: Refugees<sup>54</sup>**

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<sup>51</sup> Question by Hem Raj, Congress.

<sup>52</sup> 25 November 1960. Written Answers, Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. 47, 14-25 November 1960, col. 2298.

<sup>53</sup> Question by P.G Deb, Ganatantra Parishad, and three other MPs, two Congress and one Forward Bloc (Marxist).

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 490 on the 18th August, 1960<sup>55</sup> and state:

(a) whether the proposal to allot agricultural land to the Tibetan refugees has been finalised by now;

(b) the acres of land which are proposed to be allotted to each Tibetan refugee; and

(c) the number of Tibetan refugees who have expressed their willingness to settle permanently in India?<sup>56</sup>

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):

(a) to (c). It is proposed to settle 500 Tibetan refugees on land in Bhalukpung in NEFA, and 3000 in Periyapatna Taluk in Mysore State. The refugees have already arrived at Bhalukpung. Three to 5 acres of land will be allotted to each family in Bhalukpung. In Mysore 5 acres of land will be provided to each family of five. The refugees will arrive at Mysore early in December. There is also a proposal to settle about 1200 Tibetan refugees on land in Ladakh. Details of this scheme are being worked out.

### **In the Lok Sabha: Indian Traders<sup>57</sup>**

*[Translation begins]*

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

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<sup>54</sup> 25 November 1960. Written Answers, Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. 47, 14-25 November 1960, cols 2287-2288.

<sup>55</sup> See Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. 45, 16-26 August 1960, cols 3080-3083.

<sup>56</sup> Question by Chintamoni Panigrahi, Congress.

<sup>57</sup> 30 November 1960. Oral Answers, Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. 48, 28 November - 9 December 1960, cols 2968-2975.

- (a) How many Indians went to Tibet this year for trade;
- (b) How many persons went through each pass in the northern border;
- (c) What difficulties and inconveniences they had to face there; and
- (d) What steps have been taken to remove those difficulties and inconveniences?<sup>58</sup>

Translation ends]

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) to (d). A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

The number of Indians who went to Tibet this year for trade was 2879.

2. Information regarding the number of traders who went to Tibet through the various border passes is not available. Nor can it be collected at this stage.

3. Indian traders were not able to carry on the customary trade in accordance of the provisions of the Sino-Indian Agreement of 1954 as they were subjected to numerous difficulties e.g. restrictions on movements of traders, restriction on barter trade, ban on export of conventional items to India, lack of exchange facilities, imposition of new taxes and duties etc.

4. A number of representations have been made to the local authorities as well as to the Chinese Government but these have not yielded any result so far.

*[Translation begins]*

Shri Bhakt Darshan: Traders are having complaints ever since the agreement of 1954 with regard to Tibet. The fourth White Paper that has been published also shows that a letter of protest was sent on 17 September 1959, but no reply was received. Then on 17 May 1960, another letter of

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<sup>58</sup> See fn 119 in this section.

protest was sent, but again no reply was received. And now on 9 November also a detailed note has been sent. As there are no replies even to letters of protest, I would like to know whether the Government of India is contemplating any steps to remove the difficulties of traders.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Obviously, the relations between the Government of India and the Government of China are rather lukewarm for the last two years, and there is not much cooperation between the two. Its biggest example has been seen in Tibet, and that is evident from the White Paper also that has recently been published. In this matter, there is no other way than to keep drawing their attention to the difficulties there; efforts should be made and often efforts have been successful. For example, after a lot of efforts, hundreds of Kashmiri Muslims there have been able to return. There is no other way except, as an honourable Member suggested, to withdraw our offices and Missions from there. If there is some other reason, then that might be done, but that will increase the difficulties of our people there.

Shri Bhakt Darshan: The difficulties of our traders are going on increasing every year, and when they return to India, there is a decline in their financial condition. Therefore, I would like to know whether any special efforts are being made to rehabilitate these traders and to compensate them for their losses even as special assistance is being provided to border districts. Also have the State Governments prepared any schemes in this connection and is the Government of India giving any special assistance?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: This question had not come up so far, and I do not know why it should come up, because earlier the traders had earned there a little more than was justified.

*[Translation ends]*

Shri Raghunath Singh: May I know what is the medium of exchange between the traders of Tibet and India?

*[Translation begins]*

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: This is also undergoing a change. Their exchange regulations are also changing: sometimes these were Chinese, sometimes some other. I cannot give a detailed answer to this question just now. If Honourable Members so wish they may put up a question.

*[Translation ends]*

Shri SadathAli Khan: There is a complete lack of exchange facilities. Rupee drafts in exchange of local currency are given only if the traders undertake in writing to import into Tibet articles desired by the Chinese which are generally of military value. The traders cannot thus bring back to India their normal profits or even the capital assets.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that Indian traders in Tibet at present do not propose to continue their precarious existence under the shadow of uncertainty there and are desirous of coming back to India? If so, what steps have Government taken so far to help them to come back to this country?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There is no obstruction to their coming back; there is no difficulty in their coming back. They can come back just when they like. I do not quite see what other steps we are to provide to help them to come back. If I may say so, in this trade there used to be a number, I forget the exact number-may be 10, 15 or 20---of more or less established Indian traders there for some time past. Then on this trade becoming rather profitable, a large number of new persons went there about four or five

years ago. When I passed through just one place, Yatung, there were over 100 Indian Shops.<sup>59</sup> Out of that, I imagine 75 per cent had gone there a year or two years previously. After that, difficulties began and so many of these--quite a considerable number---came back. A very few of them have stuck on there, more or less. Possibly, they may also come back. It depends upon them. We give them facilities to come back to this country. But the question is not about their coming back but of what they can bring back with them, their goods etc. about that, there is argument. We give them as much help as we can.

*[Translation begins]*

Shri Jaipal Singh: Honourable Prime Minister has just said that our relations have become rather lukewarm during the last two years. Is it not true that on their part they are quite rigid but we are rather soft in our approach?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir, this is not true.

*[Translation ends]*

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The Sino-Indian Agreement of 1954 has determined the entire relationship between China and India, more particularly in regard to Tibet. As China is not adhering to that Agreement, as has been stated in the statement, may I know if it would not be in our as well as in other's interests to completely abrogate this Treaty?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is our opinion that in a number of particulars that Agreement is not being adhered to by the Chinese authorities. As regards the question of abrogation, it is not clear to me what is gained by taking such action. There is nothing at the present stage that might be gained by any such formal step being taken.

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<sup>59</sup> See SWJN/SS/44/item 4, here p. 20.

Shri Ranga: Is there any other useful purpose that this Agreement is considered to be serving so far as Indian interests are concerned? Tibet has lost her autonomy, though there was a guarantee there. Our traders are obliged to come away, though there was supposed to be some guarantee there. What other guarantee is there in the Agreement?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The whole question is whether we should maintain any agencies in Tibet or not, because if the Treaty is abrogated, we will have to withdraw all our Trade Missions, agencies etc. there. It might be a matter of opinion. But I think in the existing circumstances they serve in many ways a useful purpose.

Shri Khadilkar: With all the difficulties that are experienced by our traders, what IS the volume or quantum of trade still subsisting between Tibet and India?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It has, of course, gone down very considerably, but I believe some still remains.

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: I can give the figures of decline in imports and exports. As regards imports, in 1958, the value of imports was Rs. 186 lakhs; in 1959, it was Rs. 110 lakhs and from January to September 1960, Rs. 20.8 lakhs. As regards exports, the figures are, 1958-Rs. 177 lakhs; 1959-Rs. 88 lakhs and January to September 1960-Rs. 10.8 lakhs.

Shri Kalika Singh:<sup>60</sup> May I know whether the facilities allowed to Tibetans to trade in India particularly in three towns in lieu of Indians trading in three towns in Tibet include facilities for non-Tibetan Chinese nationals also?

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<sup>60</sup> Congress.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: These facilities are border facilities—they used to be. Even that has practically stopped.

Shri Kalika Singh: I wanted to know whether any non-Tibetan Chinese nationals also are allowed these facilities which Tibetans have been allowed under the 1954 Agreement.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I really cannot answer that. To my knowledge, no such case has come before us.

Shri Tangamani:<sup>61</sup> From the statement we find that this year 2,879 Indians went to Tibet. May we know how many went to Tibet during the corresponding period of last year? Does it show any increase?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: These are mostly pilgrims, I take it.

Shri Tangamani: The statement, in reply to part (a) states: "The number of Indians who went to Tibet this year for trade was 2879." I would like to know how many went to Tibet for trade last year and whether this shows any increase.

Mr. Speaker: Is it stated that it is for trade?

Shri Tangamani: Yes, Sir.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I personally feel that this includes pilgrims also.

Mr. Speaker: The point is whether he has got the figures for the previous

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<sup>61</sup> K.T.K. Tangamani, CPI.

year. Probably, he has not.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir.

Shri Vajpayee: May I know the reasons due to which the information regarding the number of traders going to Tibet through the various border passes is not available? Are we to understand that we do not have our men at the passes?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The information is fully available. But this is border movement of people there; and there may be some cases which may not have come to somebody's notice. It is available in the regular passes; but the custom has been for the local people to cross over not under regular passes but anyway. It is stated here that there might have been some such possibility in the past because we wanted to be accurate. But, broadly speaking, information is fully available.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that our Indian traders in Tibet were asked to divulge their stocks including loans advanced to Tibetans, who had by now fled out of Tibet by 1st January, 1960. Is it a fact that taxes like income-tax, sales-tax, ground rent, property rent and all these heavy taxes have been imposed on the Indian traders there--on their stock with retrospective effects?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot answer the hon. Member's question specifically. But it is a fact that new taxes have been imposed upon them and they have had a good deal of trouble about these matters. I cannot straight-off give details of those taxes.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that during 1954 and 1957 when the Indian traders had a boom period, there were no taxes whatsoever imposed on them and these taxes were imposed only recently?

Mr. Speaker: He is not aware.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That is more or less correct; and that was the boom period when they amassed lots of money.

*[Translation begins]*

Shri Bhakt Darshan: It is accepted in the White Paper that goods worth lakhs of rupees of Indians who did business especially in western Tibet got stranded last year and the position is the same this year also. Is the Government considering a move to recover the amount involved from the Government of China on governmental level and disburse it to the Indian businessmen?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The Honourable Member is talking about recovering the amount from the Chinese Government on governmental level. The Honourable Member is aware that the implementation of our existing agreements with the Chinese Government is stalled at present, and he wants us to enter into new agreements with the Chinese Government to recover money from them.

Shri Prakash Vir Shastri: Since traders are regularly coming and going from one side to the other, may I know if some traders coming from the other side have been arrested while indulging in espionage activities?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know about traders, but occasionally some persons have been arrested. I cannot say whether they came in the guise of

businessmen or in some other guise.

*[Translation ends]*

Shri P.G Deb:<sup>62</sup> May I know the value of export between India and Tibet during 1960?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Up to September, the exports are of Rs.10.8 lakhs.

### **182. In the Lok Sabha: Refugees in Bhutan<sup>63</sup>**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Bhutan Government is pressing the Government of India to take over 3 to 4 thousand Tibetans who are in Bhutan; and
- (b) what is the Government of India's reaction?<sup>64</sup>

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) and (b). The Government of Bhutan informed us some time ago that because of their limited resources they would find it difficult to undertake the resettlement of any large numbers of Tibetan refugees in Bhutan. There are at present only about 1800 refugees in Bhutan.

The Government of Bhutan have however offered employment for about 3000 refugees on road construction projects in Bhutan which would take a few years to be completed. The Government of India have agreed to give financial assistance towards their maintenance.

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<sup>62</sup> Ganatantra Parishad.

<sup>63</sup> 30 November 1960. Written Answers, Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. 48, 28 November - 9 December 1960, col. 3015.

<sup>64</sup> Question by Harish Chandra Mathur, Congress, and three other MPs, one Forward Bloc (Marxist), one PSP and one CPI.