

Selected Works of Jawaharlal Nehru

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China

210. In the Rajya Sabha: Chou En-lai's Charges¹

Maheswar Naik:² Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a statement credited to the Chinese Prime Minister in the course of a television interview in Britain wherein accusations have been made that India is working not only "to hold on to a big piece of territory which belonged to China" but also "to have brought up new territorial demands against China";

(b) whether it is a fact that the Chinese Premier has accused India, as reported by the same source, of provoking armed clashes on the border; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to counteract such mischievous propaganda by China in foreign countries?³

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Lakshmi Menon): (a) and (b) Government are aware of the Chinese Premier's statement, as reported in the Press.

(c) Government have made and continue to make use of all available media of information to emphasise the Indian point of view and the strength of the Indian case.

¹ Oral answers, 1 December 1960. Rajya Sabha Debates, Vol. XXXI, cols 547-549.

² Congress, from Orissa.

³ See press reports of Chou En-lai's BBC interview telecast of 3 November 1960, The Hindustan Times, 5 November 1960, p. 12, cols 4-5; The Times of India, 5 November 1960, pp. 1 and 7.

Maheswar Naik: May I know whether the Prime Minister's attention has been drawn to a similar report published in yesterday's papers that one British journalist recently returned from Peking has also accused India of precipitating a cold war between the two countries? Is this a fact?

Jawaharlal Nehru: I did not see that brief report but this gentleman saw me about two weeks ago, or thereabouts, and gave me an account of his visit to China and his talks with various leaders there. I listened to it. That is all that happened. I cannot enter into a controversy with a journalist about what he writes or says.

Maheswar Naik: In view of the fact that such mischievous propaganda from the Chinese sources is likely to tell upon the good name, the fair name, of India, what is the Government doing to counteract or repudiate such statements abroad?

Jawaharlal Nehru: This has just been answered, Sir. The Chinese Government presumably gives expression to its own view of this matter from time to time. We cannot prevent that from happening. We give expression, to the best of our ability, to our view and explain that to other countries.

Jaswant Singh:⁴ In such matters do we lodge protests also or do we just keep quite?

Jawaharlal Nehru: To whom?

Jaswant Singh: To the Chinese Government. When some Chinese sources make accusations against our country, then do we lodge protests or do we just keep quiet?

Jawaharlal Nehru: What do we protest about, may I ask?

Jaswant Singh: We protest in regard to the Chinese Premier having said these things, whether it is a fact and, if so, whether it is...

Jawaharlal Nehru: That means our protesting about the Chinese Premier stating what his case is. It is very extraordinary that we should protest to him about it. If he accepts our view, then the matter ends; there is no

⁴ Independent, from Rajasthan.

difficulty.

N. Sri Rama Reddy:⁵ Today's papers report that the Chinese have evacuated Longju. Is there any truth in it?

Jawaharlal Nehru: We do not know, Sir.⁶

Faridul Haq Ansari:⁷ May I know whether the attention of the hon. Prime Minister has been drawn to the fact that some important members of political parties are actually doing propaganda supporting the view of the Chinese Premier?

Jawaharlal Nehru: Yes, Sir. That has been referred to many times even in this House.

211. In the Lok Sabha: Russian Maps⁸

Vidya Charan Shukla:⁹

B.C. Mullick:¹⁰

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 624 on the 22nd August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether any reply has since been received from the U.S.S.R.

Government regarding-the question of showing in Russian maps large parts of Indian territory in China; and

(b) if not, whether any reminder has been sent to the U.S.S.R.

Government?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Sadath Ali

⁵ Congress, from Mysore.

⁶ The National Herald of 4 December 1960 confirmed that the Chinese had evacuated Longju on 3 December owing to an epidemic. See also Appendix 5.

⁷ PSP, from UP.

⁸ Oral answers, 5 December 1960. Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. XLVIII, 28 November - 9 December 1960, cols 3747-3749.

⁹ Congress, from Baloda Bazar, MP.

¹⁰PSP, from Kendrapara, Orissa.

Khan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know whether we have requested the Russian Government to show these areas at least as disputed areas till the question is finally solved with the Chinese Authorities?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Jawaharlal Nehru): We have pointed out all this matter to them and we have discussed this matter with them. And they have said they will consider it. We cannot go on bringing pressure on a foreign Government as to how they should issue their publications.

Speaker: The hon. Member wants to know whether in this form it has been brought to their notice-that the map may be shown as disputed territory.

Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot precisely say in what form the discussion took place. But obviously this aspect must have been also considered.

Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know what reasons the Government attribute to this Russian silence in not replying to our specific questions, in our correspondence about it?

Speaker: The hon. Minister has replied; we cannot go on writing to the foreign Government.

Jawaharlal Nehru: There are many countries in Europe and elsewhere which have their atlases which are not in conformity with ours in regards to India's frontiers. It is very difficult to issue instruction from here. We can point this out to them and we hope they will follow. Sometimes they say they will look into the matter and so on, and we go on drawing their attention again. But we have to realise that in independent countries, sometimes the atlases printed are by private firms there; sometimes by Governmental agencies. The reply from the Russian authorities has been always that they will look into this matter.

A.M. Tariq.¹¹ May I request you to take up Question No. 698 along with

¹¹ Congress, from Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir.

this?

Speaker: Let me see. I will find out. Shri Hem Barua.

Hem Barua:¹² In view of the fact that Soviet Russia has prepared the Chinese version of the map in preference to the Indian version, may I know whether the Government have tried to ascertain from Soviet Russia if this is an indication of their tacit approval of the Chinese cartographic claim on Indian territory?

Jawaharlal Nehru: This is a kind of question which would be rather extraordinary to put to a country and most unwise. This question of the Soviet atlas began before the present, recent trouble-began in 1954, six years ago. When the first atlas came to us, we pointed this out and since then we have been pointing this out. It is obvious-at least I presume so-that when they did in 1954, they copied all this from the Chinese atlases without giving much thought to it. The question was not one before them, as one of issue between them at that time, and they have continued that with minor variations, because, a change in that, presumably they thought, would not be from their point of view desirable, or will bring them into any controversy, whatever the reason might be; I cannot say. Anyhow, my point was this started six years ago.

Mr. Speaker: Now, Question No. 698 was referred to by Shri AM. Tariq. It deals with the ban on publications questioning Indian frontiers. That is a different matter.

212. In the Lok Sabha: Ban on Publications Questioning Indian Frontiers¹³

A.M. Tariq:¹⁴ Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given

¹² PSP, from Gauhati, Assam.

¹³ Oral answers, 5 December 1960. Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. XLVIII, 28 November - 9 December 1960, cols 3767-3770.

¹⁴ Congress, from Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir.

to Starred Question No. 918 on the 15th December, 1959 and state:
(a) whether the entry of any book, periodical, pamphlet or other document which contains any words, signs or visible representations questioning the frontiers of India has been stopped under the notification published in the Gazette of India on the 26th November, 1959;
(b) if so, the names of such publications; and
(c) the action taken in the matter?

[The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Lakshmi Menon): (a) Yes, Sir.
(b) A list is placed on the Table of the House.
(c) The publications were either seized by the State Governments or detained by the Customs authorities. In some cases the Customs authorities were alerted to prevent the import of the publications into India.

A.M. Tariq: May I know in what year these booklets or pamphlets were stopped and whether their entry was stopped or circulation was stopped?

Lakshmi Menon: Action is taken under the Sea Customs Act. There is a general ban under the Sea Customs Act of 1878 and this particular notification was issued on 26th November, 1959.

A.M. Tariq: May I know, if it is in 1959, how the 59th edition of Pears Cyclopaedia which was only published in early 1960 got entry into India? Also may I know how this Political Biography of Nehru, written by Michael Brecher, which was published in 1959,¹⁵ and then, very lately, the History of Gen. Thimayya¹⁶ got entry into this country?

Speaker: These are details. How does he expect the hon. Minister to say?

A.M. Tariq: These are important questions. According to this order, no such book can enter India. How is this Pears Cyclopaedia, latest 59th edition, circulated?

¹⁵ The reference is to Nehru A Political Biography (London: Oxford University Press, 1959).

¹⁶ The reference, most likely, is to Humphrey Evans, Thimayya of India: A Soldier's Life (New York: Harcourt, Brace, 1960). See also The Hindu, 30 November 1960 and The Times of India, 23 December 1960.

Speaker: There are hundreds of publications. These are individual cases. The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Jawaharlal Nehru): It is obviously-I feel so-not desirable to take steps because there is some minor divergence in a map anywhere. There are all kinds of books coming from all over the world. If you pounce upon every book and look into everything, there is some deviation or divergence. It is neither becoming nor helpful. The main aim is, if these are used for propagandist activities, we try to stop them.

A.M. Tariq: May I draw the hon. Prime Minister's attention to the very important book, that is, Political Biography of Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, written by the world-famous writer, Michael Brecher. This book was edited after he consulted leaders of India and the Ministry of External Affairs. In that book he has shown Kashmir as disputed territory. May I know what action Government of India have taken?

Jawaharlal Nehru: None. We do not intend to. It is obvious that in a book like that, we may not like what he has written or what he may depict in a map. I think that in all normal practice, it will be highly improper for us to stop books or papers coming that way because it does not agree with our outlook.

Speaker: I thought the hon. Member said that they were distributed by the External Affairs Ministry.

Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not think so.

A.M. Tariq: I never said that. I said it was edited with the knowledge of the External Affairs Ministry.

Vidya Charan Shukla:¹⁷ The statement laid on the Table of House lists a periodical China Reconstructs which has been banned twice. Is it not a fact that this periodical is freely circulated in India and only after it has reached all people, the Government notices that this is something objectionable and then action is taken. Will action be taken to prohibit the entry of this periodical on a permanent basis?

¹⁷ Congress, from Baloda Bazar, Madhya Pradesh.

Speaker: How can this be done? Shri Thirumala Rao.¹⁸

Thirumala Rao: In view of the incorrect map put in the Biography of Nehru, will the External Affairs Ministry draw his attention and see that the mistake is corrected when the second edition is brought?

Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir. Here is a man who shows a certain part of India, namely, Kashmir State or a part of it in a particular way, as disputed or what not. Our view is different. He deals with that matter in his book. How can you force him to do anything by going on drawing his attention? He knows that very well.

213. To S.N. Sinha: Raghu Vira on Chinese Aggression¹⁹

December 8, 1960

My dear Satya Narayan,

I am returning to you Raghu Vira's letter.²⁰ You might point out to him that the whole debate in the Rajya Sabha is likely to last about five or six hours. It is for the Chairman to decide how to allot time to individual Members. This is entirely beyond your domain.

I have just found that Raghu Vira has sent me also a letter similar to the one he sent you. Your answer to him, therefore, will cover his letter to me, and you might tell him so. It is entirely for the Chairman to decide. We all realise the great importance of Chinese aggression. But that importance cannot be judged by a five or six hours speech.

Yours sincerely,

[Jawaharlal Nehru]

¹⁸ Congress, from Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh.

¹⁹ Letter to the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs.

²⁰ Congress, Rajya Sabha MP from Bombay.

214. In the Lok Sabha: Indian Pilgrims to Kailash and Mansarovar²¹

[Translation begins:

Question:²² Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

- (a) How many Indians went on pilgrimage to Kailash and Mansarovar in Tibet this year?
- (b) How many of them went through the passes on the northern borders?
- (c) What kind of difficulties and discomforts they had to face during their journey to Tibet?
- (d) What steps are being taken to remove those difficulties?

Translation ends]

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

Statement

Owing to the advice of the local authorities that for the sake of the safety of their lives Indian pilgrims should not visit Western Tibet, only 36 pilgrims (15 from Lipulekh, 17, from Kungri Bingri Pass and 4 from Mana Pass) went on pilgrimage to Kailash and Mansarover. The pilgrims continue to face various difficulties e.g. absence of proper Rest Houses, lack of transport at reasonable rates, restriction on "Parikrama" of Kailash, etc. As will be seen from Notes included in the White Papers on Indo-Chinese relations, various 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:

Bhakt Darshan:²³ At the beginning of this statement it is mentioned that owing to the advice of the local authorities that for the sake of the safety

²¹ By Congress MPs Bhakt Darshan, Ram Subhag Singh and J.B.S. Bisht.

²² See fn 137 in this section.

²³ See fn 139 in this section.

of their lives Indian pilgrims should not visit Western Tibet. I want to know if of the 36 pilgrims who went on the pilgrimage, was there any accident, did anyone lose their life? If no such thing happened, is it going to be brought to the notice of the Chinese authorities that since this fear was baseless, no obstacles should be placed and the maximum number of pilgrims should be invited?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Jawaharlal Nehru): As far as I know, there has been no accident. But it seems strange to draw the attention of the Tibetan authorities that there has been no untoward incident with our pilgrims. First of all. If there was an accident, they would come to know before us. It does not make sense to say that since there has been no accident, our pilgrims should be given complete freedom to go there.

Ram Subhag Singh:²⁴ As the Honourable Bhakt Darshanji has said, it is stated that for the sake of the safety of their lives, Indian pilgrims should not visit Western Tibet. Have the Tibetan authorities stated if the danger to their lives was from them or from someone else? Or, why, of the 36 pilgrims who went there, one Brahmachari was arrested and his luggage confiscated?

Jawaharlal Nehru: The Chinese Government had told us that the condition of the roads there is such that they could not give any assurance that they could protect the lives of the pilgrims. There could be accidents and hence they suggested that it would be better if pilgrims do not go there. We publicised their advice here so that people may be aware. We have not prevented anyone from going there but merely advised them. If the Government there feels there could be danger, people should know about it.

Translation ends]

Hem Barua:²⁵ In view of the fact that these Indian pilgrims are denied the

²⁴ See fn 140 in this section.

²⁵ PSP, from Gauhati, Assam.

rights of fulfilment of their religious obligations, may I know the reasons adduced by the Chinese Government for this? Is it due to the abnormal situation in Tibet or is it some sort of a mild reprisal against India?

Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not understand about the right of people to travel in other countries.

Hem Barua: Under the agreement of 1954.

Jawaharlal Nehru: There is no absolute right. There may be disease which prevents it. Hundred and one things may occur. There may be troubled conditions in the country in question. When the Chinese authorities say that there are troubles there and they are unable to guarantee protection, one has to accept that they cannot guarantee protection. There the matter ends.

Hem Barua : May I know whether the normal facilities that were provided to Indian pilgrims on previous occasions, namely, facilities of rest houses, transport and all that, are provided or not?

Jawaharlal Nehru: If rest houses are there, they are there-they are not removed for six months-or, they are not there. Mostly they are not there. [Translation begins:

Govind Das:²⁶ In this context yet another problem arises, about which I had asked earlier also but got no satisfactory answer. Kailash and Mansarovar have been part of India as recorded in our ancient literature, and now that there is a border dispute between India and China, will the Government demand that Kailash and Mansarovar should revert to India?

Jawaharlal Nehru: The Hon member is talking of the times when there was Jambu Dweepa.

Translation ends]

Jaipal Singh:²⁷ Is the hon. Prime Minister in a position to enlighten us whether there is any credence behind reports that gain currency that this area is now under strong Chinese occupation?

²⁶ See fn 144 in this section.

²⁷ Jharkhand Party, from Ranchi, Bihar.

Jawaharlal Nehru: I was under the impression that not only this area, but a much wider area in Tibet was under strong Chinese occupation.

Jaipal Singh: Stronger occupation than before.

Jawaharlal Nehru: Strong or stronger. I do not know to distinguish between them.

Speaker: What the hon. Member wants to know is whether they have established their military camps?

Jawaharlal Nehru: I am venturing to say that these camps have been there all over Tibet or a great part of Tibet, not in that pilgrim route.

Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the Government have contacted any of the pilgrims who have returned from Mansarovar or Kailash and why the Chinese authorities raised objection that they should not do parikrama around the Kailash Mountain?

Jawaharlal Nehru: I am afraid I am wholly unable to understand how it is the right of anybody to travel in another country in spite of troubles, revolutions, revolts, etc. I cannot understand it. We have not directly, contacted those pilgrims who went. But, indirectly, people who have contacted them have told us that they had some difficulties, but, nevertheless, they went and came back.

215. In the Lok Sabha: Evacuation of Barahoti²⁸

Ram Subhag Singh:²⁹ Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that inhabitants of Barahoti (U.P.) evacuated that place due to Chinese pressure; and

(b) If so, whether they have been resettled somewhere?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Sadath Ali Khan): (a) and (b). No, Barahoti, which is situated at a height of 15,000

²⁸ Oral answers, 8 December 1960. Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. XLVIII, 28 November - 9 December 1960, cols 4514-4517.

²⁹ Congress, from Sasaram, Bihar.

feet, is just a camping ground in District Chamoli of the new Uttarakhand Division of Uttar Pradesh. There is no village as such at this place nor any residents. In the summer months it is used as a camping ground by our revenue party and the Indian and Tibetan traders coming and going to Tibet.

There is a subsisting agreement with the Chinese that neither India nor China will send armed personnel to Barahoti pending a settlement between the two parties in regard to this area. We have, however, been sending revenue parties every year. In winter months the revenue parties also withdraw due to severe climatic conditions.

Ram Subhag Singh: Assuming that Barahoti is just a camping ground, may I know whether the Indians who used to camp there previously camped there also during the last summer season and previous to that.

Sadath Ali Khan: Yes they did last summer.

[Translation begins:

Bhakt Darshan:³⁰ Sir, as far as I recall, we had been assured that our men would continue to be posted there even during the winter months. As far as I have been able to gather there has been an effort to do this. Is it true that our men are still present there?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Jawaharlal Nehru): I do not remember when and why such an assurance was given. I see no reason to keep them there in the winter months when they spend five-six-seven or eight months bearing extraordinary hardships away from the rest of the world. Also, special arrangements would have to be made. However, it was decided that they should go there earlier and stay for longer.

Translation ends]

[S.] Mahanty:³¹ May I know whether Barahoti is at the moment under Indian occupation?

³⁰ See fn 149 in this section.

³¹ Ganatantra Parishad, from Dhenkanal, Orissa.

Jawaharlal Nehru: Barahoti is a small area which has been in dispute as such before this larger dispute with China came up, that is, for many years, right almost from the beginning of this decade, and talks have gone on about it.

As has been stated, it was decided that this particular pasture area should not be occupied by any armed troops either of China or of India. Unarmed people can go there, and we have been sending our revenue officials during the summer months.

Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the cattle-herdsmen who used to go there took their cattle there during last summer?

[Translation begins:

[Ram Subhag Singh continues] If there are pastures there did they take cattle, goats, sheep there during last summer last?

Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not have any statistics for how many herdsmen and cattle went there. But people did go there. Our revenue party went there and stayed for about seven-eight months. When the weather worsened and winter set in, they returned to the plains. Nobody was left there.

Ram Subhag Singh: The fundamental question is whether the people who went there and used the Barahoti camping ground and the pasture land are now not being allowed to stay there due to Chinese pressure. Is this true? If not, what action the Government is going to take to make proper arrangements for them so that they can continue there or move to another place.

Jawaharlal Nehru: There is no question of staying on. As to the question of taking goats and sheep there, I cannot give the answer off hand. But I think they go there from another location, not from here.

Translation ends]

Vidya Charan Shukla:³² Is it a fact that in spite of our agreement, the

³² Congress, from Baloda Bazar, Madhya Pradesh.

Chinese have been posting their armed personnel on the plateau of Barahoti even during the winter? Have the Government any information as to whether their armed personnel are still there during this winter?

Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir. So far as I know, all this is not a fact.

Hem Barua:³³ In view of the fact that this Barahoti dispute started before the present India-China dispute, may I know whether this matter relating to Barahoti was discussed with Chinese officers here in Delhi, and those officers refused to be convinced, rolled up their maps and went away?

Jawaharlal Nehru: If the hon. Member would refer to the various White Papers issued, he will find plenty of information about Barahoti. We have had separate visits here of Chinese officers to discuss this matter three years ago--I think it was about 2 ½ to 3 years ago. They discussed this at length. It did not yield any profitable result. So those discussions were postponed, to take place again. In the course of the recent discussions, Barahoti was not discussed specifically, but presumably it came as part of the larger picture.

[Translation begins:

Bhakt Darshan: As far as my information goes, it is not so difficult to live in Barahoti as it is to reach there and come back. The access is very difficult because they have to cross a river at a height of about 19,000 ft. Therefore the Government has been considering for a very long time that a road should be built along the river so that it stays open to traffic all twelve months. I would like to know if any action is being taken in this regard so that our camp can stay open there.

Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot give an off the cuff answer to this now. We are constructing roads at many places in the mountain areas. I cannot recall if there is any specific proposal to build a road across a mountain pass. I am a little doubtful if it is even necessary or whether the expenditure it would involve would be justified.

Translation ends]

³³ PSP, from Gauhati, Assam.

216. In the Lok Sabha: Vacation of Longju³⁴

Hem Barua:³⁵ Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact, as reported in the press, that the Chinese have recently vacated Longju,³⁶ the Indian outpost in NEFA which they occupied in August, 1959 after a violent push through; and
- (b) if so, the actual position of Longju at present?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). Reports have reached us that the Chinese have abandoned the post they held at Longju and have withdrawn about three miles to the north. It is further reported that this withdrawal was necessitated by an outbreak of an epidemic in the area. The withdrawal may therefore, be considered one of convenience.

Hem Barua: In view of the fact that Longju was forcibly occupied by Chinese troops in contravention of international laws and ethics, may I know whether our Government proposes to reoccupy that position after the Chinese troops have vacated Longju in NEFA?

Jawaharlal Nehru: In regard to Longju hon. Members might remember, because it occurs in the White Papers, that we had suggested that as we were discussing these matters neither side should occupy it and there the matter rested. It is true that the Chinese Government did not accept this proposal and they continued to occupy it and took that stand. But considering that they have vacated it because of an epidemic, it is not a very attractive proposition to us to march into the epidemic.

Hem Barua: The Chinese who conquered Mount Everest at the first onslaught. To believe that they were overpowered by a mere epidemic is something very strange. In view of that would Government try to ascertain from Peking whether this is friendly gesture on the part of China?

³⁴ Short notice question, 9 December 1960. Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. XLVIII, 28 November - 9 December 1960, cols 4766-4770.

³⁵ PSP, from Gauhati, Assam.

³⁶ See Appendix 5.

Jawaharlal Nehru: First of all, the distance is so little-so far as our information goes it is about three miles-that it is rather difficult where Longju ends and where the next village begins. For us to ask them the question that the hon. Member suggested seems to be hardly desirable in this form. I might, with your permission, say something. Some hon. Member had sent a short notice question about Indo-Chinese, or rather the India-China official level talks in Rangoon. I gather that they have concluded and that in the course of two, three or four days-I am not quite sure-our delegation will be coming back with whatever reports they may have signed.³⁷

Hem Barua: May I know whether Government are aware of the actual date or the approximate date on which Longju was vacated by the Chinese troops and the date when the Government got this information? Is there a time lag between the two, that is, the date of vacation by the Chinese and the date on which the Government got the information about that?

Jawaharlal Nehru: There is a considerable time lag. I cannot say how. In fact, even now I cannot speak with any certainty because we have naturally had to rely on odd people who normally come across the frontier. We do not send our people there. We do not send our aircraft to fly over there because of this broad agreement that we will not cross each other's territory. As hon. Members would remember, Longju is just inside the border. According to us too the border was just beyond Longju. It is a question of two or three miles and if you fly over it, it is inevitable that you cannot fly a mile here and a mile there but you can fly over a much broader stretch of territory. The point is therefore that neither by flight have we tried to ascertain this nor in any other way ensured this with certainty. As reports have come to us through various other means, we

³⁷ The leaders of the Indian delegation, Jagat S. Mehta, Director, China Division, MEA, and Sarvepalli Gopal, Director, Historical Division, MEA, and those of the Chinese delegation, signed the report on 12 December 1960 in Rangoon. See Volume 66 Supplement for full Report.

cannot give dates etc. about this matter.

Vidya Charan Shukla:³⁸ May I know if the Government are taking any steps to prevent the reoccupation of our outpost that has been vacated just now by the Chinese on the pretext of an epidemic outbreak?

Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir. It is rather difficult for me to explain the geography of the place. But if we merely tried to occupy Longju first of all it will be taking a step which under the present understanding we are not supposed to take just as the Chinese are not supposed to take any such step. Secondly, it would involve it seems-I talk in terms of two or three miles-a fairly major undertaking.

[J.] Mohammed Imam:³⁹ It is said that an epidemic in a severe form is prevailing there. Has our Government taken any steps to afford medical facilities to the people living in that area?

Jawaharlal Nehru: Living at Longju? No Sir.

[J.] Mohammed Imam: Is that no man's land?

Speaker: He wants to know whether Longju has been abandoned both by the Chinese and by our Government.

Jawaharlal Nehru: Longju, if I may repeat, is according to us exactly near the border. It is on our side of the border. The line goes there. This was occupied forcibly by the Chinese as the House knows. Our post is a few miles on this side. The Chinese were in occupation. The Chinese have departed from there. In fact, our information is that in order to build three miles away their barracks or whatever they are, they have destroyed the hutments at Longju and taken the bricks and other materials to build the other place. Longju is practically a place without any residential area.

Vidya Charan Shukla: According to our proposal which the Chinese did not accept, we said that Longju should not be occupied by either our forces or theirs. I want to know what steps we have taken to see that they do not

³⁸ Congress, from Baloda Bazar, Madhya Pradesh.

³⁹ Elected PSP MP from Chitradurga, Mysore; moved to Swatantra Party.

again intrude into our territory three miles.

Speaker: He has already answered that.

[Mahavir] Tyagi:⁴⁰ Has the Government been able to ascertain as to what type of epidemic it is, whether it is a natural epidemic or they have created artificiality by gas, etc. some epidemic to prevent our reaching there?

Jawaharlal Nehru: No. I do not know,

[Mahavir] Tyagi: What is the epidemic? Is it cholera? What is the disease?

Jawaharlal Nehru: I have not received a doctor's report. These are travellers' tales which when confirmed by repeated travellers, one accepts more or less.

[Mahavir] Tyagi: What is the epidemic?

Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot say.

217. To Subimal Dutt: Collecting Insects in NEFA⁴¹

The Acting Director of UNESCO here, Dr. Rudolf H. Fritsch, came to see me today and brought with him Dr. Schmid of the University of Lausanne in Switzerland. Dr. Schmid is a zoologist collecting insects and the like from various parts of India for the last three years. He now wants to go to the NFFA and especially to Kameng Frontier Division from February to September 1951, to carry on his research in insects. Apparently this area abounds in them. He has had some correspondence with our Ministry, Evidently he was not encouraged.

2. I told him that this is a very delicate area, and we do not allow people to go there. However, I said I would look into these papers.

3. Would it be possible for us to allow him to go there accompanied by an Indian zoologist or entomologist? This will be good training for one of our

⁴⁰ Congress, from Dehra Dun, UP.

⁴¹ Note to FS, 9 December 1960. MEA, File No. 65 (2)-EAD/60, p. 23/notes.

men. I do not myself see any great objection to his going there (he travels alone except for porters) accompanied by one of our men.
4. I enclose some papers which were given to me about him.⁴²

218. To Subimal Dutt: Collecting Insects in NEFA⁴³

I think we should permit Dr. Schmid to go to NEFA. I agree that this should be subject to what is said in 4 (b) of Deputy Secretary's note.⁴⁴
Further that some Indian zoologist should accompany him.

219. In the Rajya Sabha: Chinese Rocket Bases on UP-Tibet Border⁴⁵

Maheswar Naik:⁴⁶ Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a press report to the effect that China has been building rocket bases in Tibet along the Uttar Pradesh border areas; and

(b) if so, whether Government have examined its possible effects on the security of Indian territory?⁴⁷

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) our attention has been drawn to the press report. We, however, have no information on the subject.

(b) Measures have been taken and will continue to be taken to ensure

⁴² See Appendices 7 (a), 7 (b) and 7 (c).

⁴³ Note, 12 December 1960. MEA, File No. 65 (2)-EAD, p. 24/notes.

⁴⁴ See Appendix 7 (a).

⁴⁵ Written answers, 14 December 1960. Rajya Sabha Debates, Vol. XXXI, col. 1913.

⁴⁶ Congress, from Orissa.

⁴⁷ Possibly, former president of the India League of America J.J. Singh's statement in New Delhi on 3 December that "the Chinese had a 'long-range' plan to infiltrate into India." See The Times of India, 4 December 1960.

the security of India from external aggression.

220. In the Lok Sabha: India-China Officials' Talks⁴⁸

Question:⁴⁹ Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the talks between the Indian and Chinese official teams in regard to border records have concluded;
- (b) whether Government have considered the report of the Indian official team; and
- (c) what other steps Government propose to take in the light of this report in regard to border problem?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) to (c). The talks between the Indian and Chinese official teams at Rangoon ended some days ago. Their report has been submitted to the two Governments and we have recently received it. It is a long report of about 570 pages. Together with it is a full record of the talks which takes up nearly 3,000 pages. We have yet to examine this report thoroughly before it can be decided what further steps should be taken in the matter.

[P.R.] Assar: May I know if a copy of the report will be placed on the Table of the House; if not, the reasons therefore?

Jawaharlal Nehru: I have just said that we are considering the report. Before we have considered it I am not in a position to go into these details. Some time or other, of course, I take it, it will come before Parliament, but when this should be done I cannot say.

[Atal Bihari] Vajpayee:⁵⁰ On a point of order. It has not been claimed by the Prime Minister that the report is a confidential document, nor has it

⁴⁸ Oral answers, 23 December 1960. Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. XLIX, 12-23 December 1960, cols 7243-7248.

⁴⁹ By Jan Sangh MP P.R. Assar, Congress MP Ram Subhag Singh, PSP MP Khushwaqt Rai.

⁵⁰ Jan Sangh, from Balrampur, UP.

been stated that it will not be in the public interest to place a copy of the report on the Table of the House. May I know why there should be any reluctance on the part of Government to place a copy?

Speaker: Hon. Members read too much into the answer. The hon. Prime Minister has said that he is considering this. Certainly it will be placed on the Table of the House when the occasion arises.

Jawaharlal Nehru: I have said clearly that some time or other it will be placed. Surely, it will be very extraordinary that the moment I receive 4,000 pages of a document I throw it on the Table of the House.

[Atal Bihari] Vajpayee: There is no question of throwing it on the Table of the House. The Prime Minister may be pleased to place it on the Table of the House.

Jawaharlal Nehru: I am glad the distinction is made by the hon. Member. First of all, as I said, a thing of this kind, anyhow, has to be considered. I have not read it. I have not read ten lines of it yet. I just cannot face a document like this. It is being read in our Ministry, and I should read it, but apart from that, the question arises-it does not bind us-when they are supposed to be joint reports, whether there should be simultaneous publication or unilateral. May be it may be unilateral, I am not saying that it must be, but all these questions have to be considered. There is a certain decorum in such matters, apart from the political aspects.

[J.B.] Kripalani:⁵¹ May I know whether it will be published before we get information from Peking, or it will be published afterwards, because it is of great significance that many times things concerning China and India have been talked of by the Peking papers and read, and we are put in an awkward position?

Jawaharlal Nehru: How can I answer the hon. Member as to what the Chinese Government might do without our permission, or without

⁵¹ PSP, from Sitamarhi, Bihar.

reference to us?

[J.B.] Kripalani: You can publish it.

Jawaharlal Nehru: Suppose suddenly they issue it or parts of it without reference to us, -but I do not think that is likely to happen, that is a different matter -if by any chance, deliberately or otherwise, some leakage takes place at the other end, I will not be responsible for it, but I do not think it is likely to happen.

Speaker: All that the hon. Member, I think, wants is that steps may be taken from this end to inform them that if they want to publish it, it may be published simultaneously.

Jawaharlal Nehru: Whatever we may do, we have to read it first.

[J.B.] Kripalani: I would want it to be done quickly.

Jawaharlal Nehru: Why should it be done quickly, may I ask?

[J.B.] Kripalani: Because there is a possibility of our getting information from Peking, and it may be coloured information, and the world may get a wrong idea.

Jawaharlal Nehru: If by any chance something comes out from Peking, surely it will be followed immediately by the thing being placed here. That cannot affect it.

[J.B.] Kripalani: A lie that goes in advance has always an advantage.

Speaker: Is it the suggestion that we must publish it in advance now?

[J.B.] Kripalani: We will give our point of view.

Speaker: The hon. Prime Minister is quite clear.

Jawaharlal Nehru: It is not, obviously, in the nature of things, a report as to what should be done or what should not be done. The officials were not competent. It is an examination in a very lengthy way of the evidence produced by us and the evidence produced by the Chinese side. In fact, you cannot take a bit of it out. Either you consider the whole evidence, hundreds and hundreds of pages, or you don't, and considering the two, you may come to your opinion. Broadly, anybody who reads it will get the total effect of the case of India and the evidence on behalf of India and the case for China and the evidence on behalf of China. It cannot easily

be extracted in bits here and there and a conclusion reported.

Nath Pai:⁵² In spite of the fact that the report runs into 3,000 pages.

An Hon. Member: Not the report.

Nath Pai: In spite of the fact that the report, including the evidence, runs into 3,000 pages, it is conceivable that a summary has been placed before the Prime Minister by the Indian expert team. Is it a fair assumption as reported in certain sections of the press that the evidence is so mutually contradictory that there is no point of agreement on the main issues; if so, may I know how Government intend to pursue the matter further?

Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member has started putting me the same question that was put to me originally which I answered. How can I possibly tell the House in regard to any matter which has not been fully considered, more especially in regard to an important international matter, as to what steps we are going to take and when?

Nath Pai: May I clarify? I do know it had that appearance, but a summary must have been supplied.

Speaker: If the newspapers get some information, the hon. Prime Minister may have some information. These are all arguments.

Jawaharlal Nehru: Quite apart from the report, it is obvious that I have to keep in touch, and I have tried to keep in touch, with what was happening. After the first time our officials came back from the Peking talks, after the second time in Delhi, and now after the third time I have met those officials, I have had a talk with them, but the whole business of the officials was, apart from difficulties, minor difficulties, to place the evidence in a proper form, and explain it to the other people. I know the evidence, a great deal of it. I have seen it in the last year or two repeatedly. There is nothing very new for me except that it is put in an ordered form, and it is perhaps easier to understand than isolated bits of evidence. So, there was nothing new. They informed me of all this and

⁵² PSP, from Rajapur, Bombay.

they informed me broadly of what the other party had placed or said.

Hem Barua:⁵³ Does it mean that the original difference still persists? The Prime Minister says there is nothing new in the report. Does it mean that the original difference still persists?

Jawaharlal Nehru: The report consists of the evidence-1, 2, 3, 4, 135, 346. There are some new items added on as and when they have come to our view, and the difference, that is, the different approach to the different cases not only persists, but was bound to persist because the officials on either side are not going to accept the evidence-minor things they may accept-as a whole, they cannot change the Government's case. That is not expected of officials on either side.

Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether Government has received any documentary proof from China of the fact that Tibet had no right of its own to conclude treaties at the Simla Convention and any other document repudiating the papers of Ranjit Singh's days regarding the western sector?

Jawaharlal Nehru: How can I reply to the hon. Member's question? There are all kinds of documents. Some are accepted; some are not. How can there be documentary proof of that as if there is a clean, clear document saying that they have this right? They have not. Of course, there is no such document, but there are circumstances, circumstantial cases built up in that way. It has been the Chinese Government's case that the Tibetan Government had no right to come to an agreement, but it is really a very minor matter. The whole agreement is a minor matter, in our case; it is one matter to be mentioned here. Our case is based on much stronger grounds than that agreement of 1911.

Nath Pai: Is it a fact that whereas our team was in a position to produce substantial evidence to establish the Indian position vis-a-vis Aksai Chin, the Chinese team had not been able to produce any iota of evidence? May the Prime Minister enlighten us on this?

⁵³ PSP, from Gauhati, Assam.

Jawaharlal Nehru: I think the hon. Member will have to exercise some patience in such matters.

(d) Tibet

In the Rajya Sabha: Tax on Indian Businessmen⁵⁴

Niranjan Singh:⁵⁵ Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an extraordinary tax has been imposed on Indians carrying on business in Tibet; and

(b) if so, what is the nature of this tax, whether it is levied on goods sold, imported, exported or goods remaining unsold during the previous year?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Lakshmi Menon) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Chinese authorities in Tibet announced on August 30, 1960, the imposition of a sales tax and export duty at 3% with retrospective effect from 1st January, 1960. Import duty and income tax have also been levied at the same rates. These taxes are in addition to the Toll Tax which is being collected on the basis of loads exported to India from July, 1959.

Niranjan Singh: May I know, Sir, whether the Government is aware that the property which the businessmen had got at that time has been seized by the Government because they were unable to pay the taxes?

Lakshmi Menon: Certainly, if the taxes are not paid, the Government is entitled to seize the property.

Niranjan Singh: Is it a fact that tax has been imposed on unsold articles which are not to be taxed?

Lakshmi Menon: All these hardships suffered by these merchants and traders have been brought to the notice of the Government and the Government have taken necessary steps.

⁵⁴ Oral answers, 1 December 1960. Rajya Sabha Debates, Vol. XXXI, cols 523-525.

⁵⁵ PSP, from Madhya Pradesh.

Faridul Haq Ansari:⁵⁶ May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that due to this arbitrary imposition of heavy taxes many traders have to leave Tibet?

Lakshmi Menon: Yes, Sir. It is true.

Maheswar Naik:⁵⁷ In view of the fact that China has been persistently violating the pacts and regulations and forcing our Indian traders in Tibet to close down their business in Tibet, why is it that the Government do not think it proper to abrogate the Indo-Tibetan Trade Pact?

Jawaharlal Nehru: The question of abrogation of the Pact may or may not be considered necessary at some future time but it has no particular relation to this matter. Obviously, we may have to balance the advantages and disadvantages. If we abrogate it, many consequences flow and certainly it does not help these traders. They are being helped by this Pact. A very considerable number of people-Kashmiri Muslims and others-because of the efforts of our representatives, have been able to come back and are still coming back. They are there to protect all those people. All this may be, in a sense, perhaps a gesture which exhibits our disapproval. That is all happening. But at the same time, as I said, it is to the advantage of our people. I cannot say what the future might bring, but at the present moment it will be advantageous for us to do that.

Akbar Ali Khan:⁵⁸ Are we adopting counter-moves against the traders of China in this country?

Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir. I would hold the structure of our Government, its economics and standard on a different basis, as the House no doubt knows.

H.N. Kunzru:⁵⁹ What is the object of the taxation imposed by the Chinese Government? Is it really to put an end to the trade between India and Tibet?

Jawaharlal Nehru: It has not been definitely said. It might well be partly

⁵⁶ PSP, from UP.

⁵⁷ Congress, from Orissa.

⁵⁸ Congress, from Andhra Pradesh.

⁵⁹ Independent, from UP.

that and partly to realise money or may be both.

222. In the Lok Sabha: Kashmiri Muslims from Tibet⁶⁰

Question:⁶¹ Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

- (a) whether recently there has been renewed migration of Kashmiri Muslims from Lhasa;
- (b) if so, whether Government have ascertained the causes of sudden influx and recent migration; and
- (c) the number of Kashmiri Muslims who have since come to India?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Sadath Ali Khan): (a) A number of Kashmiri Muslims have come from Tibet to India recently.

(a) For the last year and a half these Kashmiri Muslims have been trying to return to India. The Chinese authorities raised some difficulties in regard to their return claiming that they were Chinese nationals. In the White Papers I to IV on Sino-Indian relations, a number of Notes have been published in regard to this matter. In September, 1960 these Kashmiri Muslims were permitted by the Chinese authorities to leave Tibet.

(c) Approximately 675.

Ram Subhag Singh: May I know if the Ladakhi Muslims who were arrested there some time ago, not exactly recently, have been kept in Lhasa Jailor somewhere else and whether our Consulate people or anybody else have succeeded in contacting them?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Jawaharlal Nehru): A large number of these Muslims from Ladakh have now been allowed to

⁶⁰ Oral answers, 5 December 1960. Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. XLVIII, 28 November - 9 December 1960, cols 3754-3759.

⁶¹ By Forward Bloc (Marxist) MP Subiman Ghose; Congress MPs Ram Krishan Gupta, K.G. Wodeyar, Raghunath Singh, Mafida Ahmed, D.C. Sharma and PSP MP Hem Barua.

come to India. They are in India in fact. I cannot say where they were kept. They were there in some kind of detention. It was obviously detention. Some were not in detention at all. But they had to report themselves. Some, I believe, are still there. I do not know what further information the hon. Member requires.

Ram Subhag Singh: It is mentioned in the White Paper that some persons were arrested and sentenced to ten or fifteen years' imprisonment. Has any of our officials contacted them in Jail or at least approached the Chinese Government to contact them?

Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not think any of our officials were permitted to pay visits to the prison. The Chinese case was that these people were Chinese nationals. They denied the fact that they were Indian nationals. But ultimately owing to our pursuing this matter for months and months, they have allowed a large number of them-the number is given there-to come to India. They are now in India. How many are left behind, I do not know.

Ram Subhag Singh: That is precisely my point. Previously when the Chinese did not admit them to be Indian nationals, they arrested their leaders and sentenced them to ten to fifteen years rigorous imprisonment. Now are they going to consider the cases of those sentenced persons de novo or not because now they have taken up the stand that they can return to India?

Speaker: Are they kept in jail?

Sadath Ali Khan: The Indian Consul General at Lhasa had been repeatedly requesting the Foreign Bureau for the release of Kashmiris still under detention and also to facilitate their return to India. The Foreign Bureau has, however, refused to entertain the Consul General's representations stating that the arrested persons were not Indian nationals. The Consul General will, however, continue to press for their release. They are still there.

[Atal Bihari] Vajpayee:⁶² What is the number of those who are detained in

⁶² Jan Sangh, from Balrampur, UP.

Tibet? Are we not in a position even to ascertain their number?

Sadath Ali Khan: There are about eleven Kashmiris arrested by the Chinese authorities in Tibet. Recently there have been no arrests. But at present three persons are undergoing imprisonment, four are in detention camp and the remaining four were released on different dates.

Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that some of these Kashmiri Muslims in Tibet were subject to a vigorous syllabus of political education on the line that India is an expansionist country who grabs other peoples' territory and it is India who instigated the revolt in Tibet? If so, what steps have Government taken to rewash the brains of those who have come back?

Speaker: Shri Braj Raj Singh.

Hem Barua: Sir, is it not important?

Speaker: I am sorry.

Hem Barua: Some of the Kashmiri Muslims who have come back. ..

Speaker: The hon. Member asks some questions merely for the purpose of asking them here. What answer does he expect? We do not know what brainwashing is. Does he want this hon. House and the Government also to take to brainwashing of hon. Members?

Hem Barua: May I submit that some of the Kashmiri Muslims who have come back...

Speaker: It is meaningless.

Hem Barua: They have made statements in the press....

Speaker: I do not know how they can be brainwashed here. We do not take to brainwashing here.

Hem Barua: They have admitted that they were subjected to political education.

Speaker: I am sorry. Shri Braj Raj Singh.

Braj Raj Singh:⁶³ About the eleven persons who are either detained or sentenced and are in jails in Tibet, has it been given by the Chinese

⁶³ Socialist, from Firozabad, UP.

authorities that they are not Indian nationals? If so, have the Government of India approached them saying that they happen to be Indian nationals just like the other persons who have returned to India?

Jawaharlal Nehru: That is the argument that has gone on for some months. Many of these people have been in Tibet for a large number of years. Some have married Tibetan ladies. This argument has gone on as to whether they are Indian nationals or Tibetan or Chinese nationals. Under great pressure from these people themselves, a considerable number of them have been allowed to come back. In regard to the eleven, the Chinese authorities have not agreed that they are Indian nationals. That is the stand on which we have been carrying on the argument.

Raghunath Singh: What is the charge against them and will these 600 Kashmiris who came from Tibet be treated as Indian citizens or not?

Jawaharlal Nehru: The question is whether they are Indian nationals or Chinese nationals. The charge is, presuming them to be Chinese nationals, that they do not fall in with the views of the State and are agitating and whatever else they may be doing. I cannot answer what the exact charge is. I have not seen it. But the fact that they are behaving in ways which are not agreeable to the Chinese Government, I take it, has led to their being arrested.

Kalika Singh:⁶⁴ May I know whether the Chinese action is directed against the people in general in Lhasa or against the Kashmiri Muslims only?

Jawaharlal Nehru: This is only against people whose nationality are not known; not against the people in general. Some people have been living there for ten, twenty or thirty years and, as I said, some of them have married there. The Chinese claim that they are Chinese or Tibetan nationals, while they say "No, we are Indian nationals" and we support them.

⁶⁴ Congress, from Azamgarh, UP.

[N.G.] Ranga.⁶⁵ In view of the fact that they have stayed there and got married to those ladies there and they still continue to be Indians, is any effort made by the Indian Government to ascertain how many Indians there are, where they are and what their occupations are? Is there no necessity for the Government to use their good offices to help those people to come back here if they so desire?

Jawaharlal Nehru: If the hon. Member reads the White Paper he will get an answer to this question.

[N.G.] Ranga: I am unable to follow the reply.

Jawaharlal Nehru: I said these matters are dealt with in the communications in the White Paper that has been issued. So, the hon. Member can get that information from that. That is to say, we know precisely those who claim to be Indian nationals. In regard to some there is no dispute; so they have come back. In regard to some there has been some dispute whether they are Kashmiri Muslims or Ladakh Buddhists and about their nationality. This dispute arose- previously there was no dispute-when the disturbances in Tibet took place in a rather big way a year and a half ago. Then the matter came up. Previously, the question did not come up. After that, they wanted to leave Tibet and do so on the basis of Indian nationality. So, they approached our Consulate General and now some hundreds of people have been allowed to move. But some others are still there and this argument is still there as to what their nationalities are.

Hem Barua: May I put a question? In view of the fact that the hon. Prime Minister admitted that some of the Kashmiri Muslims have married Tibetan women, may I know whether the Kashmiri Muslims who want to come back are also permitted to take their Tibetan wives with them?

Speaker: Shrimati Mafida Ahmed.

Mafida Ahmed: May I know whether any effective measures are being

⁶⁵ Elected Congress MP from Tenali, Andhra Pradesh; moved to the Swatantra Party which was formed in June 1959.

taken to check infiltration of undesirable elements among the Kashmiri Muslims?

Jawaharlal Nehru: Some measures are taken. I cannot guarantee the effectiveness of them. I cannot guarantee they are always effective. We try our best.

223. In the Lok Sabha: U.S. Scholarships to Lama Refugees⁶⁶

P.K. Deo:⁶⁷ Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

- (a) whether U.S. scholarships have been granted to certain Lama refugees of Tibet now at Darjeeling to prosecute studies in U.S.A.;
- (b) the studies they are supposed to make in U.S.A.;
- (c) the reason for selecting these Lamas; and
- (d) whether the concurrence of the Government of India was sought in this regard?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) to (c). The Rockefeller Foundation provided a grant for the encouragement of Tibetan studies at the University of Washington, and a programme was drawn up by that University to carry out a linguistic analysis of the Tibetan language and to do research in Tibetan religious and social subjects. For that purpose the University needed the services of qualified Tibetan Lamas, and a Professor of the said University visited India and selected three Tibetan Refugee Lamas who were staying at Darjeeling and Kalimpong. In order not to disrupt their family life, the University decided to invite their families as well i.e. 10 persons in all. Their visit to the Washington University will last for three years in the first instance. They will be in immediate contact with the scholars and teachers of Tibetan in the University and they are required to provide accurate and

⁶⁶ Written answers, 5 December 1960. Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. XLVIII, 28 November- 9 December 1960, cols 3822-3823.

⁶⁷ Gantantra Parishad, from Kalahandi, Orissa.

detailed information about Tibetan religious doctrine, way of life, thought, etc.

(d) Yes, Sir.

224. In the Rajya Sabha: Settling of Tibetan in Mysore and Ladakh⁶⁸

Niranjan Singh:⁶⁹ Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised any scheme for settling about 3,000 Tibetan agriculturists in the State of Mysore.

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme and when it is likely to be implemented; and

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to secure land in Ladakh also where other refugees could be settled and could take to agriculture?

Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Forest land measuring about 3500 acres at an elevation of 2,500 ft. has been made available by the Mysore Government in Periyapatna Taluk bordering the Coorg District for the settlement of Tibetan refugees. About 600 farming families will be settled there. The land is in six plots and there will be about 500 refugees to a plot. A transit camp at Jyotinagar near Mysore has been set up. The Government of Mysore will implement the scheme on behalf of the Government of India who will bear its cost. The first batch of refugees is expected to reach Mysore in the middle of December 1960.

(c) A proposal to settle about 1200 refugees on land in Ladakh is under consideration.

⁶⁸ Written answers, 7 December 1960. Rajya Sabha Debates, Vol. XXXI, cols 1127-1128.

⁶⁹ PSP, from Madhya Pradesh.

225. To Subimal Dutt: Tibetan Refugees⁷⁰

Jayaprakash Narayan came to see me today. He told me that he had recently been to see the Dalai Lama at Dharamsala. The Dalai Lama now realised that there was no possibility of any change in Tibet or in regard to the Tibetan refugees. He was, therefore, chiefly interested in settling them in India. He did not want them to get lost in the sea of humanity. The Mysore scheme was good, but that would absorb only 3,000 persons. He was even prepared to have them settled in the plains somewhere and to hope that they would condition themselves to the warm climate.

2. I told him that it might be possible to increase the number sent to Mysore, though we cannot be sure of this. Thus this figure might go up later to 5,000 or so. Also that some arrangements for their settling were being made in NEFA, Sikkim and Ladakh. Perhaps all these together might amount to even ten or twelve thousand. Of course, it will take some little time.

3. I also told him that we were not at all happy at the behaviour of Gyalo Thondup.⁷¹ I mentioned to him the recent article in some foreign newspaper (I think it was the London Times, but I am not sure) in which some reference was made to the wealthy aristocrats surrounding the Dalai Lama and throwing money about. Also about Sirdar Sen,⁷² the Dalai Lama's adviser who was described graphically in that article.

226. In the Lok Sabha: Afro-Asian Tibet in UN⁷³

⁷⁰ Note to FS, 10 December 1960.

⁷¹ Brother of the Dalai Lama.

⁷² Sirdar D.K. Sen. SWJN/SS/59/p. 347.

⁷³ Oral answers, 13 December 1960. Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. XLIX, 12-23 December 1960, cols 5169-5175.

Question:⁷⁴ Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state?

(a) whether Government have received a memorandum from the Afro-Asian Convention on Tibet recently held in New Delhi⁷⁵ requesting the Government of India to make a move to place the Tibetan issue on the agenda of the current session of the U.N. General Assembly;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the stand taken by India in the United Nations on the question of Tibet?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Lakshmi Menon): (a) and (b). No note or memorandum was received from the Afro-Asian Council, but a letter was received from a member of the Council. The Government of India was, however, of opinion that they should not support the proposal made therein.

(c) This question has not yet come up for discussion in the General Assembly.

[N.G] Goray: I would like to know, when this question comes up in the United Nations what will be our directive to our representatives there.

Lakshmi Menon: It will depend upon the wording of the draft resolution. If we think we could support it, we will support it. Otherwise we will have to take whatever action is appropriate; the delegation is asked to consult the Government of India regarding the final decision.

P.K. Deo: May I know if the International Commission of Jurists submitted a report saying that there has been a clear case of genocide and violation of human rights in Tibet; and, if so, what action Government propose to take on that report, and how do they propose to utilise that report in the United Nations?

Lakshmi Menon: The international organisation of jurists that the hon. Member was referring to is not a governmental body.

P.K. Deo: It is not.

⁷⁴ By PSP MP N. G Goray, GNP MP P.K. Deo and Congress MPs Rameshwar Tantia, Ajit Singh Sarhadi, Hem Barua and A.M. Tariq.

⁷⁵ 8-11 April 1960.

Lakshmi Menon: Therefore, what action could Government take on the recommendations of a non-governmental organisation?

Braj Raj Singh:⁷⁶ What are the reactions of the Government?

Speaker: Dr. Ram Subhag Singh.⁷⁷

Ram Subhag Singh: Is it true that the Tibetan people in Tibet are being eliminated as a race by the authorities who are at present controlling the destiny of Tibet; if so, what do Government consider about that?

Lakshmi Menon: That is what the memorandum of the jurists' reports. After considering the evidence they have collected they say that there is a clear case of genocide in Tibet.

Hem Barua:⁷⁸ May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact that since the last session of the General Assembly there has happened much to establish conclusively that in terms of the U.N. there has been violation of human rights and genocide against Tibetans in the Tibet region of China; and, if so, whether Government propose to revise the decision during the next session of the General Assembly of the U.N.?

Jawaharlal Nehru: This question of our policy in regard to Tibet has been discussed here on more than one occasion, and the policy we adopt is clear; and we see no reason to change that policy. It is not a question of approving of what is being done in Tibet. We do not approve, we have not approved of a great deal that has happened there. But it is a question of what we should do about this matter. Even last year, when this question arose we discussed it at some length, and when that went to the UN. a very large number of countries abstained on this issue, because of various considerations. So far as this report is concerned it is not for me to say how far it is correct or not, and it is difficult even for them, that is those who drafted the report, to say, because it is all based on accounts of refugees who have come here. It could not be otherwise. But such

⁷⁶ Socialist Party, from Firozabad, UP.

⁷⁷ Congress, from Sasaram, Bihar.

⁷⁸ PSP, from Gauhati, Assam.

accounts are often, it is known, limited and somewhat exaggerated. But apart from that, there is no doubt in our mind that much has happened in Tibet which has caused very considerable unhappiness to many people there.

But as to what we should do, I mean the U.N. should do, about it depends, first of all, as my colleague said, on what kind of resolution is brought up there. But apart from that, it does not seem to us to affect the situation at all it doesn't.

[N.G] Goray: I would like to know, why is it when our representatives in U.N., while talking on colonialism in such grandiloquent manner and condemning it, keep quiet about this when every crime under the sun has been committed by the Chinese in Tibet.

Jawaharlal Nehru: Obviously for this reason that it is not colonialism of the type we have always mentioned. It may be worse than colonialism, if you like; but it is not colonialism of that type. Here is a long history, going back to centuries and with all kinds of conflicts and authorities functioning there. You may consider it and condemn it or not, that is a different matter. But it is a different type of thing.

P.C. Borooah:⁷⁹ What are the sources of finance for this association, the Convention on Tibet?

Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know. How do I know?

[Translation begins:

A.M. Tariq:⁸⁰ I would like to know whether the Government knows that this time some Indian citizens had gone to the United Nations where they kept criticizing the Tibet policy of the Indian Government. They have also been doing propaganda against India's policy. I would also like to be informed how much foreign exchange was given to these people?

Jawaharlal Nehru: Who is being talked about and where?

Translation ends]

⁷⁹ Congress, from Sibsagar, Assam.

⁸⁰ See fn 200 in this section.

A.M. Tariq: Mr. J.J. Singh⁸¹ and his colleagues.

[Translation begins:

Jawaharlal Nehru: As far as I can remember, they were both given foreign exchange worth Rs 12,000.

Lakshmi Menon: Shri J.J. Singh and Shri Purshottamdas Tricumdas.

A.M. Tariq: No answer has been given to the first part of my question. Is it true that when these people went there they kept criticising the official policy of the Government of India and have been lobbying against our policy in other countries? If this is correct, what steps has the Government taken in this regard?

Jawaharlal Nehru: Shall I answer this question. It is possible that what the Hon Member is saying is correct. I cannot investigate what goes on behind closed doors.

Translation ends]

Ram Krishan Gupta:⁸² The hon. the Prime Minister just now said that there seems to be some truth in this case. May I know whether Government has received any such complaints from our headquarters there?

Jawaharlal Nehru: Not normally the type of complaints that have come in there. The kind of information we get is obviously limited in the circumstances to what is seen in the locality there. There is no information about so-called genocide, etc.

Ansar Harvani:⁸³ Is Government aware that certain foreign missions in Delhi have been helping and organising these conventions and have actually been financing them; if so, may I know what steps Government proposes to take in the future to prevent these activities?

Jawaharlal Nehru: We have no information on that subject.

Chintamani Panigrahi:⁸⁴ May I know whether the attention of the hon. the

⁸¹ Former president, India League of America.

⁸² Congress, from Mohindergarh, Punjab.

⁸³ Congress, from Fatehpur, UP.

⁸⁴ Congress, from Puri, Orissa.

Prime Minister has been drawn to a letter published in Blitz regarding Shri J.J. Singh's letter to Shri Jayaprakash Narayan that if the Indian delegation does not support their stand in U.N. they will expose our Prime Minister; and, if so, what is the reaction of the Prime Minister to the same?

Jawaharlal Nehru: I have not seen any such letter; I do not know what it contains.

Chintamani Panigrahi: It has come in other papers also.

Some Hon. Members rose-

Speaker: I cannot allow every hon. Member to put supplementary on every question.

227. To Subimal Dutt: On Gyalwa Karamapa⁸⁵

Gyalwa Karamapa, the head of the Red Hat Sect of Tibet, came to see me a little while ago. He had a Sikkimese with him to act as his interpreter. I had a fairly long talk with him about the group with him.

2. He told me that he had come over from Tibet six months or so before the Dalai Lama crossed over. He had a sense of a foreboding of what might happen. With him had come about 200 persons, including a considerable number of the so called incarnate Lamas, monks and lay devotees. Apparently there are about 70 little boys with him who are incarnate Lama.

3. From Gangtok he had gone first to Dharamsala via Calcutta. He has now come back here after seeing the Dalai Lama.

4. Evidently, he wants help to carry on himself and for his group. I told him that I was particularly interested in the proper education of the boys with him, whether they were incarnate Lamas or not.

⁸⁵ Note to FS, 15 December 1960. MEA, File No. 3 (1)BST/60, p. 16/Note. Also available in the JN Collection.

5. He mentioned to me that there are others of his sect floating about Darjeeling, Kalimpong, etc.
6. I suggested to him that he should see you and discuss these matters.
7. He gave me a letter which I enclose.⁸⁶

[Nehru added in his own hand as follows:]

There are, I was told, some good handicraftsmen with him. I have been given a beautifully made small bell with a lovely sound.

JN

228. To J.J. Singh: Tibet⁸⁷

16 December 1960

My dear J. J.,

I have your letter of today's date.⁸⁸

Tariq's question was not drafted by me, Anyhow it asked me whether some persons (meaning you and another) were carrying on propaganda against the Government of India on the Tibetan issue. My answer was strictly correct. I said that this might have been done, that is, on that issue. You had, in fact, gone there for the purpose of raising the Tibetan issue and pleading for a policy which was opposed to that of the Government of India. I do not see anything wrong in my answer. It had to do with the Tibetan issue and no other matter.

Yours sincerely
Jawaharlal Nehru

⁸⁶ See Appendix 39.

⁸⁷ Letter to the former President of India League of America; address: 101 Friends Colony, New Delhi, NMML, J.J. Singh Papers. Also available in the JN Collection.

⁸⁸ See Appendix 40.

229. In the Rajya Sabha: Foreign Agencies and Tibetan Refugees⁸⁹

Harihar Patel:⁹⁰ Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the names of foreign countries and foreign private relief agencies engaged in the relief and rehabilitation work of the Tibetan refugees in India; and

(b) the number and names of camps run by them in India, Sikkim and Bhutan?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) The Governments of Australia, United States of America and New Zealand have placed Rs. 10 lakhs, Rs. 4,75,000 and Rs. 2,63,920 respectively at the disposal of the Government of India for the relief and rehabilitation of Tibetan refugees. The Government of the Republic of Vietnam donated 1,300 tons of rice.

The following private organisations (foreign and Indian) have been providing foodstuffs, clothing, medicines, etc.:

1. Co-operative for American Relief Everywhere;
2. American Emergency Committee for Tibetan Refugees;
3. Rational Christian Council of India;
4. Catholic Relief Services in India;
5. World Veterans' Federation;
6. Indian Red Cross Society;
7. Junior Chamber International;
8. The Buddhist Society of Thailand.

(b) No camps are run by any foreign Government or private agency in India.

In the Lok Sabha: Settling Tibetan Refugees in NEFA⁹¹

D.C. Sharma:⁹² Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to reply given

⁸⁹ Written answers, 19 December 1960. Rajya Sabha Debates, Vol. XXXI, cols 2459-2460.

⁹⁰ Ganatantra Parishad, from Orissa.

⁹¹ Written answers, 21 December 1960. Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. XLIX, 12-23 December 1960, col. 6694.

to Unstarred Question No. 1709 on the 30th August, 1960 and state:

(a) the further progress in the work of settlement of the Tibetan refugees in Bhaluckung in North-East Frontier Agency;

(b) the amount spent so far for general development of that area; and

(c) when the work is likely to be completed?

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

The approach road to the land settlement area has been reconditioned, and construction of accommodation for the refugees has been completed.

A hospital for 60 patients is being built. Cultivation of vegetables and fruits has begun and jungle clearance is proceeding. Teaching of Tibetan and Hindi to the refugees has commenced and a school for 700 students is being set up. A cooperative shop has been established at the Transit Camp.

(b) Rs. 5,43,000 upto the end of November, 1960.

(c) Progress of work has been hampered by the heavy monsoon this year, but it is likely to be completed as originally planned during 1962-63.

231. To MEA⁹³

I have read the summary of the recommendations of Shri Soni's⁹⁴ report and Joint Secretary's note. It is difficult for me to say much about the syllabus suggested by Shri Soni. I do not understand why each school should have an agricultural farm attached to it. All the boys there are not likely to become agriculturists. Indeed probably very few of them will. Possibly one such school may have a small farm attached to it. Some kind of a vegetable garden might be attached.

Generally speaking, teaching should be of the basic type, that is, through crafts.

⁹² Congress, from Gurdaspur, Punjab.

⁹³Note to FS and JS (E), 22 December 1960.

⁹⁴ R. C. Soni, Inspector General of Forests, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, GOI

I see that the present intention is to have two schools; later, if need arises, to have a third. It is clear that one of the schools should be located at Mussoorie. I am slightly prejudiced against Kalimpong, but probably it will be convenient from some points of view to have the school at Kalimpong. I should have thought that Dharamsala would be a good place, chiefly because the Dalai Lama would be nearby. Gangtok also may be suitable because of some facilities there.

I agree that Simla will not be suitable for a variety of reasons into which I need not go.

I suggest, therefore, that for the present we should make arrangements to start a school of the type intended at Mussoorie and the second school at Kalimpong. If, however, the Dalai Lama does not approve of Kalimpong at all, perhaps Dharamsala might be preferred. In any event, some schooling will be done at Gangtok and in Mysore. The Dalai Lama might be informed accordingly.

You may, if you like, show your preference for Kalimpong in writing to the Dalai Lama.

(e) Nepal

232. K.D. Malaviya: Crisis⁹⁵

16th December, 1960

My dear Keshava,

Your letter of today's date about the developments in Nepal.

Although we did not expect this exact development which took place,⁹⁶ the fact is that for the last six months or more it has been pretty obvious that the King has been thinking of some such step. He has repeatedly mentioned to me about his dissatisfaction with the Ministry. I have

⁹⁵ Letter to the Union Minister of Mines and Oil.

⁹⁶ On 15 December 1960, the King suspended the constitution, dismissed the Government and dissolved parliament.

pointed out to him again and again that the only hope for Nepal was for the Ministry and the King to pull together and that it would be most unfortunate for the democratic structure, which was being built up there, to be interfered with. Possibly, it was partly due to what I have said to him repeatedly that he delayed action. Anyhow, it has come now. We cannot, as a government, do much except to express our regret. Please treat what I have written in this letter as strictly confidential.

Yours affectionately,
[Jawaharlal Nehru]

233. In the Lok Sabha: Dismissal of Nepal Government⁹⁷

Mr. Speaker: I have received notice of an adjournment motion by Shri Indrajit Gupta⁹⁸ and a call attention notice by Shri Braj Raj Singh,⁹⁹ regarding the dismissal of the Nepalese Cabinet by the King of Nepal and the repercussions of it in India, Nepal being our next door neighbour. Incidentally, it is said, General Thimayya happened to be in Kathmandu¹⁰⁰ when the suspension of constitutional government in the neighbouring State of Nepal happened.

I would not have brought it up except for the reason that it is a neighbouring State and whatever happens there-any kind of coup and others, if they should be there-might have repercussions here because it is on our borders particularly where we have got some trouble with China. I would like to know what the hon. Minister has to say about it.

Indrajit Gupta: Sir, may I just put a question? I would like to know whether our Government has been taken completely by surprise by this development or whether they had any previous communication or report

⁹⁷ Motion, 16 December 1960. Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. XLIX, 12-23 December 1960, cols 5973-5978.

⁹⁸ CPI, from Calcutta-South West, West Bengal.

⁹⁹ Socialist Party, from Ferozabad, UP.

¹⁰⁰ On an official visit to Nepal from 8 December 1960. See The Times of India, 9 December 1960.

through our Embassy at Kathmandu that some such political crisis was developing. May I also know whether it is a fact that just at this moment our Ambassador¹⁰¹ instead of being at Kathmandu is away on a shikar party somewhere?

Jaipal Singh:¹⁰² Sir, may I just submit one thing. I am rather surprised to see that you have admitted it, but with due respect to you, Sir, I venture to point out that this matter cannot be discussed in the shape of an adjournment motion.

Speaker: I have not given my consent. Why is the hon. Member in a hurry? Just before giving my consent I wanted to know the facts. Sometimes I dispose of adjournment motions in my chamber itself and sometimes I reject them here without asking the hon. Members concerned to give any further explanation. So far as this matter is concerned, it concerns a State which is just on our borders, and on the other side of that border we have got a big country which has encroached upon 12,000 square miles of our territory. Therefore, we are interested in what happens in this state. I have not given my consent to this adjournment motion. Before taking a decision on it I am only trying to understand what exactly has happened there.

Braj Raj Singh: Sir, I would like to submit that there is no intention on the part of anybody in this country to interfere in the internal administration of that country. But, situated as we are, we have been so close to each other geographically that whatever happens in one country has got its repercussions on the other. That is the reason, Sir, why we submitted this matter for your consideration.

Raja Mahendra Pratap:¹⁰³ Let us congratulate the King of Nepal.

Jawaharlal Nehru: If I may say so, Sir, this subject is, with all respect to you, hardly one for a motion for adjournment in this House.

Speaker: I am not going to allow it.

¹⁰¹ Harishwar Dayal.

¹⁰² Jharkhand Party, from Ranchi West, Bihar.

¹⁰³ Independent, from Mathura, UP.

Jawaharlal Nehru: I am merely stating the manner of putting it. If hon. Members had asked me a Short Notice Question I would have said what I had to say. I would submit, Sir, that to such questions, where they want some kind of information, I would gladly give it at a day's notice, if necessary, if I possess it, instead of bringing it in this way.

Now Sir obviously it is not for me to criticise the actions taken there but, obviously, it is a matter for regret for all of us that a democratic experiment or practice that was going on has suffered a set-back. That is all I can say about it.

The hon. Member asked if we had any previous intimation of this through our Embassy or otherwise. About this exact event happening yesterday we had no previous intimation, and the very fact, as some hon. Member mentioned, that our Ambassador was not in the city at that time, shows that we had no intimation. If that is true, it is also true that for some months past we had repeated intimation that the King of Nepal was dissatisfied with things as they were and that he might take some action. What action he was going to take and when, we did not know, but this we certainly had been feeling for months past that something might happen there because of the dissatisfaction of the King with the Ministry. Now, mention was made about General Thimayya.

Of course, General Thimayya did not have any previous intimation either that this was going to happen. Some little time ago—a week or ten days ago—we were informed by the Nepal Government—I think the desire was that of the King—that they wanted to honour General Thimayya by a decoration as well as by appointing him an Honorary General in the Nepalese Army. In accordance with our usual practice we told them that we do not approve of decorations being given but that we had no objection to General Thimayya being made an Honorary General of the Nepalese Army as one of his predecessors General Cariappa was also there. That was the answer we gave.

So General Thimayya went to get this Honorary Generalship. He was present on the occasion and I believe yesterday or two days ago this

short ceremony took place and the King invested him with the Honorary Generalship. He stayed a day or two behind and he was caught rather unawares in these developments.

Braj Raj Singh: That raises a very important question. As General Thimayya has now been made an Honorary General in Nepal and this experiment of a democratic set-up has been shelved there, shall it not be proper now for our Government to ask General Thimayya not to accept that honour (Interruptions)?

Jawaharlal Nehru: It is over. The investiture took place two or three days ago.

Braj Raj Singh: Since the democratic set up.

Speaker: We will assume that six months later this happens. Shall we then ask General Thimayya to surrender it? Are we in charge or in control of what happens there? I would not have, as I said, brought it up, I brought it up because it is an important matter. In future, as I said, yesterday or a few days ago, using the adjournment motion as a method for eliciting information ought to be given up (Interruption). I understand the hon. Member's point. He could have easily tabled a Calling Attention Notice.

Braj Raj Singh: I have already tabled a Calling Attention Notice. We do not wait to censure the Government on this.

Hem Barua:¹⁰⁴ And we do not deserve your admonition either.

Speaker: I shall admit it as a Calling Attention Notice. The hon. Prime Minister has explained to us the position. We are watching the repercussions that it will have in our country. But we have no control over it. So far as the adjournment motion is concerned, wherever any information is called for I would advise hon. Members not to table an adjournment motion.

Joachim Alva:¹⁰⁵ There is one observation, Sir, arising from the hon.

¹⁰⁴ PSP, from Gauhati, Assam.

¹⁰⁵ Congress, from Kanara, Mysore.

Prime Minister's statement. I thought I heard him saying that our Ambassador was absent from Kathmandu. I do not hold the Prime Minister responsible for anyone of his actions, nor would I like him to find fault with our Ambassador there. But there is, Sir, a striking similarity when the coup d'etat happened in Ankara¹⁰⁶ and now again in Kathmandu where our Ambassadors were not in their capitals.

Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member refers to instances which have not much basis in fact. When the coup d'etat happened in Ankara the Ambassador¹⁰⁷ was just a day before with me in Constantinople-rightly with me.¹⁰⁸ He did not go away. It was a continuing process there. As regards this matter, he is not far away from the country. It only shows that he did not know as, indeed, the Ministers concerned did not know. [N. G] Goray:¹⁰⁹ Coup d'état never happens with prior intimation; otherwise it would not be a coup d'état.

234. To Rajendra Prasad¹¹⁰

December 18, 1960

My dear Mr. President,

A special messenger from Kathmandu has brought a letter for me from the King of Nepal. The letter is dated 16th December.¹¹¹ This has been delivered to me late on the evening of the 18th December.

As desired by the King of Nepal, I am sending you a copy of his letter. With the letter came a copy of his Proclamation. As this has already

¹⁰⁶ On 27 May 1960.

¹⁰⁷ Jai Kumar Atal.

¹⁰⁸ During Nehru's tour of Middle East; see SWJN/SS/60/items 157-160.

¹⁰⁹ PSP, from Poona, Bombay.

¹¹⁰ Letter to the President of India.

¹¹¹ See Appendix 42.

appeared in full in the newspapers, I am not sending this to you. But, should you so desire, I shall have a copy sent.

Yours sincerely,
[Jawaharlal Nehru]

235. To Joachim Alva: Absent Ambassadors¹¹²

December 19, 1960

My dear Alva,

Thank you for your letter of the 19th December.

As for our Ambassadors, some of them may be slow, but the three incidents that have been mentioned cannot be held up to their disadvantage. Our Ambassador in Kathmandu¹¹³ went at the invitation of the Commander-in-Chief of Nepal, together with General Thimayya, in a shikar party in the valley in Nepal, just a day before the upset occurred there.¹¹⁴ Our Ambassador to Iraq had not arrived in Baghdad when the revolution occurred.¹¹⁵ The Ambassador in Ankara had gone with me to Istanbul. He stayed there a day after I left, and the change at Ankara took place then.

You have mentioned the case of Mr. Gould bringing in some dollars. This was a fairly bad infringement of our rules about bringing in any foreign currency. These rules are enforced in most countries of the world. I can hardly tell our Customs people to relax well known rules. I am returning your original letters.

¹¹² Letter to Joachim Alva, Congress, Lok Sabha MP from Canara, Mysore

¹¹³ Harishwar Dayal

¹¹⁴ K.S. Thimayya was on a ten-day visit to Nepal beginning 8 December at the invitation of the Commander-in-Chief of the Nepalese Army. See The Times of India, 2 December 1960.

¹¹⁵ The reference seem to be to I.S. Chopra who went to Iraq as ambassador soon after the coup of 14 July 1958; See SWJN/SS/43/p. 511, item 34.

Yours sincerely,

[Jawaharlal Nehru]

236. To Devendra Prasad Singh: Mahendra acted on his own¹¹⁶

December 23, 1960

My dear Devendra Prasadji,

Your letter of December 23 which I have read with interest.

I cannot say what pressures must have been brought upon the King of Nepal. We have no evidence of external pressures. My own impression is that he himself was inclined in a particular direction and required no pressure. Of course, he might have been encouraged by others.

I shall gladly meet you, but I do not quite know what date and time to suggest. I am leaving for Allahabad on the 26th, coming back on the 29th to meet the Prime Minister of Ceylon. Then I am going to Bombay and later to Bhavnagar for the Congress Session. After that if you are in Delhi, I shall gladly meet you.

Yours sincerely,
Jawaharlal Nehru

(f)Burma

237. In the Lok Sabha: Burmese Pensioners in India¹¹⁷

[K. G] Wodeyar:¹¹⁸

S.A. Mehdi:¹¹⁹

¹¹⁶ Letter to Rajya Sabha PSP MP from Bihar.

¹¹⁷ Written answers, 5 December 1960. Lok Sabha Debates, Vol. XLVIII, 28 November - 9 December 1960, cols 3821-3822.

¹¹⁸ Congress, from Shimoga, Mysore.

¹¹⁹ Congress, from Rampur, UP.

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Burma have put restrictions on pensioners who were getting their pensions from the Government of Burma, but are living in India as Indian citizens; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). It is not clear to what restrictions the Hon. Members are referring. Some difficulties had arisen about the Burma Government's income tax in respect of pensions paid to their pensioners residing in India. The exemption which they had enjoyed since 1940 was withdrawn by a Burma Government notification from the 1st October, 1954, a notification which reached Indian Treasuries concerned with the payments in 1957 and later. The question, therefore, arose of retrospective deductions of the Burma income tax. This matter has, however, been temporarily solved by the Burma Government's agreement in principle to authorise payments of current pensions, assessing income tax at scheduled rates, leaving the question of arrears of income tax for adjustment between the two Governments.

5. From Subimal Dutt¹²⁰

[Refer to items 210 and 216]

Prime Minister may kindly see the latest report (flagged 0) confirming that the Chinese have evacuated Longju. I do not think that we should make an attempt to recapture this place. It has no intrinsic importance and any attempt to occupy it is bound to lead to further troubles.

6. From Vincent Massey¹²¹

[Refer to item 266]

Batterwood House

Near Port Hope, Ontario

23 November, 1960

My dear Mr. Nehru,

I am writing to you as Chairman of The Duke of Edinburgh's Second Commonwealth Study Conference (Canada 1962). Prince Philip is our President, and I think he spoke to you last summer in London about this coming event.

The purpose of this letter is to let you know that the preparations for the Conference are well in hand and that we have met with a very enthusiastic response from all parts of the Commonwealth. We hope that the 1962 Conference will be worthy of the very successful meeting which took place in Oxford in 1956.

I have no request to make of you but I would like to express the hope that the objects of the Conference will meet with your approval, and that India will be able to send a strong delegation.

I look back with great pleasure to the visit which you and your daughter paid me at Government House in Ottawa a few years ago. I was

¹²⁰ Note, 21 November 1960. NMML, Subimal Dutt Papers, Subject File No. 44.

¹²¹ Letter. PMO, File No. 17(435)/60-62-PMS, Sr. No.2-A.

very happy indeed to have you both as my guests.

With warmest regards,

Yours very sincerely,

Vincent Massey

7. (a) From Har Mander Singh to J.G. Kharas¹²²

[Refer to items 217 and 218]

Dr. Schmid has sought permission to visit the Kameng Frontier Division of the NEFA from the 1st February to the end of October. His programme includes a visit to the remote Mago region as well as some other sensitive areas. His expedition is sponsored by the Swiss Government, the Swiss Alpine Foundation, the Swiss National Fund for Scientific Research as well as the UNESCO. It has been stated that his present research is the last and essential link in a chain of expeditions which have led him to all the mountain tracts from the Pyrenees to the Eastern Himalayas. It has also been stated that the sponsoring authorities have already invested about Rs. 2 lakhs in Dr. Schmid's research work. The Swiss Charge d' Affaires has mentioned that the results achieved by Dr. Schmid so far would remain valueless unless he is allowed to complete his work in the Kameng Division.

2. Dr. Schmid gave me to understand that the Zoological Survey of India propose to send a liaison officer to accompany him during his expedition. He is also understood to have given commitment that half of his collections would be presented to the Indian scientific institutions.

3. In 1957 Dr. Schmid applied for permission to explore Kumaon Hills in 1958, Sikkim in 1959 and the Subansiri Frontier Division of NEFA in 1960. He was granted permission to undertake expedition in Kumaon in

¹²² Note from the Deputy Secretary (N), MEA to J.G. Kharas, Joint Secretary (E), MEA, 24 November 1960. MEA, File No. 65 (2)-EAD/60, pp. 19-20/notes.

1950 and in Sikkim in 1959. In November 1959 he applied for permission for a visit to the Kameng Frontier Division in 1960. Under advice from the Defence Ministry and after obtaining PM's orders, the Swiss Embassy was informed that "in view of the present border situation it would not be advisable for Dr. Schmid to visit the Kameng area or any other area near the border at present." The Ministry expressed the hope that "in these circumstances Dr. Schmid would find it possible to postpone his visit to some future date when the situation becomes normal."

4. My advice would be as follows:

(a) Dr. Schmid should be dissuaded from taking out an expedition at the present juncture. He could do so after a couple of years if, by then, the situation becomes more settled.

(b) If, however, due to the sponsorship of the UNESCO and the Swiss Government, it is decided to allow him to proceed with his plans, he must definitely be prevented from visiting the Mago region or the valley leading to that area. The most he could be allowed is a visit via Kalaktang to Bomdila and possibly a visit in the Dirang Dzong valley up to Nyukmadong subject to the agreement of the Defence Ministry. We could also permit him to travel in the valley of the Digien and Dinam rivers up to Kujjalong (MS 8374) but no farther.

5. Dr. Schmid has pointed out that the expedition will not be possible without quarter inch maps. He has suggested that the liaison officer should be provided with these maps and that he should keep them in his custody and make them available to Dr. Schmid whenever required. I see no objection in acceding to this request.

7. (b) Subimal Dutt to Har Mander Singh¹²³

[Refer to item 217]

¹²³ Note, 28 November 1960. MEA, File No. 65 (2)-EAD/60, p. 20/notes.

Conditions in the area which Dr. Schmid proposes to visit continue to be difficult. Indeed, they are, in certain respect, worse this year than last year. We should, therefore, regret our inability to give the necessary permission to Dr. Schmid. He can repeat his request next year this time. But we cannot make any commitment at this stage even about 1962.

7. (c) From Subimal Dutt¹²⁴

[Refer to item 217]

Prime Minister may kindly see Deputy Secretary's note flagged "z" in the file below (page 19). When early this year Dr. Schmid asked for similar permission, we turned down his request with the Prime Minister's approval. There is a fair amount of military activity in the northern areas in the Kameng Frontier Division and it will, in my view, be inadvisable to let a foreigner move about in this area under present conditions. If, however, Prime Minister feels inclined to accede to Dr. Schmid's request, permission may be given to him subject to the conditions in paragraph 4(b) of Deputy Secretary's note.

¹²⁴ Note, 12 December 1960. MEA, File No. 65(2)-EAD/60, p. 23/notes, MEA.

40. From J.J. Singh¹²⁵

[Refer to item 228]

101 Friends Colony

New Delhi

December 16, 1960

Bhai:

I was somewhat distressed to read in the newspapers your reply to Mr. A.M. Tariq in the Parliament on December 13.

As reported by the Times of India on December 14, and supported by the transcript of the proceedings of that day, here below are Mr. Tariq's question and your answer.

Mr. Tariq inquired how was the grant of foreign exchange to them justified in view of the fact that they were carrying on propaganda against abroad [India] on the Tibetan issue.

Mr. Nehru replied that what the member stated might be correct, but the Government had not inquired into what those two persons had been doing "behind the scenes."

I am distressed because I thought you knew me better than to think that I would ever indulge in anything under hand or "behind the scenes"...

I remain

As ever yours,

J.J. Singh

¹²⁵ Extract of letter. NMML, J.J. Singh Papers.

61. From Subimal Dutt¹²⁶

[Refer to item 96]

The file below deals with the substitution of jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in Paris over cases in Pondicherry by the jurisdiction of Indian courts. Prime Minister may kindly see the notes at pages 6, 9, and 74 to 76. We asked the Chief Commissioner,¹²⁷ Pondicherry, to discuss our proposals with the Councillors. The Chief Commissioner now reports in his letter (S.No.42) that the Councillors are of the view that appeals from Pondicherry should be taken up directly by the Supreme Court and not by the High Court of Madras as suggested by us. The Law Ministry is opposed to the vesting of jurisdiction in the Supreme Court in the first instance and I am inclined to agree with this view. For the reasons stated by the Home Minister, we propose to invest the Madras High Court, in preference to the High Court in Mysore, with appellate jurisdiction over Pondicherry. If we do so, there is bound to be some agitation and discontent in Pondicherry. I suggest, however, that we face this. The other points such, for example, as permission to Pondicherry lawyers to appear before the appellate court, are relatively unimportant and can be dealt with separately.

62. From Subimal Dutt¹²⁸

[Refer to item 127]

Prime Minister may kindly see the letter below from Shri Yunus. There would be nothing inappropriate in his associating the Indian Embassy with a request to Spanish Government to maintain a cemetery. It would be somewhat unusual, however, for the representative of India to join in a request to a foreign Government for the construction of a mosque. On the

¹²⁶ Note, 29 December 1960. MEA, File No. 31(2)-Ewr (w)/59-GP. Vol.I.

¹²⁷ Ram Sharan Singh.

¹²⁸ Note, 29 December 1960. MEA, File No. 17(4) Eur/61, p.1/Note.

other hand, his refusal to do so might be misunderstood by the representatives of the Muslim countries in Spain. It is clear, however, that the Government of India cannot make any contribution towards the erection of a mosque. My advice, therefore, would be for Shri Yunus to associate himself with the representative of the Spanish Government after he has informally made it clear to his colleagues that the Government of India will not be able to make any contribution towards the building of a mosque. If any private donations are forthcoming in India, we shall, of course, pass them on, although in respect of this also there may be some difficulty about foreign exchange.