

August 2, 1966

Rajya Sabha Q&A on a Disarmament Conference for Non-Aligned Countries

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Summary:

Transcript of questions and answers between members of the Rajya Sabha and the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, on the scheduling and progress of an International Disarmament Conference for Non-Aligned Countries.

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SCIENCE INFORMATION SERVICE

242. SHRI A. D. MANI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Science Writers Association in India has suggested the creation of a Science Information Service;

(b) if so, whether any memorandum in this regard has been presented by the Association to Government; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what are the details of the memorandum ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) to (c) The Science Writers' Association of India has made no such representation to Government. However, on the 27th May, 1966, it had sent a Memorandum to the Committee on Broadcasting and Information Media set up by this Ministry, suggesting that 'Science desks' may be established in all the publicity agencies of this Ministry and that a programme for training Science Writers to do the required job might be initiated for which purpose Government should form the Science Information Service as a separate component of the Central Information Service. The Memorandum from the Association is one of the numerous communications received by the Committee from the various agencies interested in its terms of reference. The Committee has not yet considered this Memorandum; but Government will be concerned not with the evidence received or gathered by the Committee but only with its recommendations figuring in its report(s).

INDIAN EMBASSIES ABROAD

243. SHRI RAM SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the Indian Embassies are unnecessarily emphasizing food scarcity in India abroad with a view to securing more assistance; and

(b) if so, whether Government have issued instructions to the Embassies not to resort to such methods ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE BY NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES

244. SHRI RAM SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any move by the non-aligned countries for convening a world disarmament conference; and

(b) if so, when and where the conference is likely to be held ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) :

(a) At its XX session, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution, which endorsed the proposal of the Second Non-aligned Nations Conference for the convening of a World Disarmament Conference to which all countries would be invited. The resolution urged that the necessary consultations be conducted with all countries for the purposes of establishing a widely representative Preparatory Committee which would take appropriate steps for the convening of the conference not later than 1967.

(b) Certain consultations are being undertaken by the non-aligned nations on this question but no decisions have been reached in regard to the establishment of the Preparatory Committee or the date or venue of the proposed conference.

संयुक्त राष्ट्रीय प्रेक्षकों पर पाकिस्तान द्वारा की गई गोलीबारी के सम्बन्ध में निर्णय

245. श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरङ्गिया : क्या रक्षा मंत्री 23 फरवरी, 1965 को राज्य सभा में संयुक्त राष्ट्रीय प्रेक्षकों पर पाकिस्तान द्वारा की गई गोलीबारी से संबंधित ताराकित प्रश्न संख्या 91 के आधार पर पूछे गए एक अनुपूरक प्रश्न के उत्तर को देखेंगे जिसमें यह कहा गया था कि "जब शिकायतें प्रस्तुत की जाती हैं तो स्वभावतः कुछ औपचारिकताएँ निभाई जाती हैं और इन शिकायतों पर निर्णय की प्रतीक्षा