

**April 25, 1962**

**Rajya Sabha Q&A on the Export of Nuclear Weapons  
and Proliferation**

**Citation:**

"Rajya Sabha Q&A on the Export of Nuclear Weapons and Proliferation", April 25, 1962, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (ISDA), Rajya Sabha Q&A Documents. <https://digitalarchive.umd.edu/document/119756>

**Summary:**

Transcript of questions and answers between members of the Rajya Sabha and the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shrimati Lakshmi Menon, on the Indian government's opposition to United States export of nuclear weapons.

**Credits:**

This document was made possible with support from Carnegie Corporation of New York (CCNY)

**Original Language:**

Hindi

**Contents:**

Original Scan

**वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्रालय में उद्योग मंत्री (श्री एन० काननगो) :** अपेक्षित जानकारी इकट्ठी की जा रही है और उसे सभा की मेज पर रख दिया जायगा ।

†[THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): The required information is being collected and it will be laid on the Table of the House.]

**श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरड़िया :** मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जो १९६०-६१ और १९६१-६२ की जानकारी है वह तो अब तक कनेक्ट हो जानी चाहिये थी ?

**श्री एन० काननगो :** नहीं, श्रीमन् । यह तो पूछने हैं कि कितने लॉस दिये गये हैं । हजारों आइटम्स हैं । यह क्वेश्चन १९ तारीख को मिला था और इम बीच में यह खबर कमीशन से नहीं मिल सकी ।

**श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरड़िया :** मेरा कहना है कि प्रति वर्ष के हिसाब से कम्पाइल्ड स्टेटमेंट बनना चाहिये और उस कम्पाइल्ड स्टेटमेंट के आधार पर गत दो वर्षों की जानकारी तो उपलब्ध हो सकती थी ?

**श्री एन० काननगो :** यह तो ३१ मार्च १९६२ तक की सूचना मांगते हैं और वह इतनी जल्दी कैसे दे सकते हैं ।

**SHRI R. P. N. SINHA:** Is it a fact that the Public Accounts Committee in its last report has very strongly criticised the habit or the practice of the Khadi and Handloom Commission advancing loans without adequate security?

**SHRI N. KANUNGO:** Well, Sir, the Public Accounts Committee has made certain comments and those are being examined.

**SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN:** May I know whether it is not a fact that most of these loans are given through the State Boards?

**SHRI N. KANUNGO:** Yes, Sir.

### अणु-अस्त्रों का निर्यात

\*७२. **श्री भगवत नारायण भार्गव :** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत ने हाल ही में संयुक्त राष्ट्र से अनुरोध किया है कि जिन राज्यों में अणुअस्त्र बनते हैं, वे वहा से बाहर न भेजे जायें ; और

(ख) किन किन देशों ने भारत के इस प्रस्ताव का समर्थन किया तथा इस अनुरोध का क्या फल हुआ ?

†[EXPORT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

\*72. **SHRI B. N. BHARGAVA:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has recently requested the United Nations that nuclear weapons should not be exported from the States in which they are produced; and

(b) the names of the countries which supported India's move and the result thereof]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) and (b) India has advocated, for many years, complete elimination of all nuclear weapons, and has urged that, as a step towards that goal, there should be no further spread of the manufacture, possession or placement of these weapons. In accordance with this policy, the Indian Delegation at the United Nations has supported various resolutions seeking to prevent wider dissemination of these weapons. At its 16th Session

last autumn, the General Assembly adopted two such resolutions, one moved by Ireland and the other moved by Sweden.

In pursuance of the Swedish Resolution, the Secretary General of the U.N. addressed communications to Member States enquiring into the conditions under which countries not possessing nuclear weapons might be willing to enter into specific undertakings to refrain from manufacturing or otherwise acquiring such weapons and to refuse to receive them in future in their territories on behalf of any other country. The Government of India reiterated their views on this issue in the reply they sent to the Secretary General's enquiry. A copy of the reply is placed on the Table of the House. Many other States are also believed to have sent comments in full sympathy with the spirit and intentions of the Swedish Resolution, but a full statement of the replies received by the Secretary General has not yet reached the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA'S REPLY TO U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL'S COMMUNICATION REGARDING MANUFACTURING ETC. OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS BY NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

On January, 2, 1962, the United Nations Secretary General, in pursuance of General Assembly Resolution 1664 (XVI) addressed Member States regarding undertaking to refrain from manufacturing, acquiring or receiving nuclear weapons. On March 25, 1962, the Government of India authorised their Permanent Representative at the United Nations to communicate the following reply:—

"The Government of India hold steadfastly to the view that nuclear weapons of mass destruction pose the gravest dangers to mankind and threaten civilisation with annihilation. These dangers can be fully removed only by the achievement of complete and general disarmament, which was the goal established by the General Assembly's resolution 1378(XIV) and which must be the aim of all efforts by States.

2. The elimination of nuclear weapons is imperative and urgent as an initial step towards the achievement of the goal of general and complete disarmament. The greatest responsibility rests on those States who already possess and manufacture these weapons. Many more States are, however, believed capable of their manufacture, and the achievements of technology on the one hand and the participation of States in military pacts on the other, are capable of greatly increasing the number of States having or being able to manufacture nuclear weapons.

3. To eliminate the dangers, it is essential that:

(i) all those States not yet manufacturing these weapons or permitting them on their territory, should undertake not to do so;

(ii) the weapons already in existence should be confined to the territory of the States which manufactured them; and

(iii) the latter, as required by General Assembly Resolution 1648 (XVI) should bind themselves by a Treaty banning nuclear tests under appropriate controls; and pending such a treaty, they should refrain from such tests.

As these measures by themselves would still leave sufficient nuclear military capacity to destroy vast sections of the world, it is also necessary to undertake immediately a programme for the dismantlement or conversion to peaceful use of all nuclear weapons that are in existence.

4. It is the considered view of the Government of India that States should immediately undertake to further the elimination of nuclear weapons and accept obligations thereunder. So far as the Government of India are concerned, they

have repeatedly declared that they have no intention of manufacturing themselves or accepting nuclear weapons on their territory. The conviction and policy of the Government of India stand unchanged in this matter. The Government of India are, therefore, willing to enter into any general agreement or specific undertaking in this regard in accordance with the resolution of the United Nations."

†[**वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती लक्ष्मी एन० मेनन)** : (क) और (ख). भारत पिछले कई वर्षों से सभी अणु हथियारों के पूर्ण निषेध का आग्रह करता रहा है और उसने इस बात पर जोर दिया है कि इस उद्देश्य को पूरा करने के लिये जरूरी है कि ऐसे हथियारों के निर्माण, अधिग्रहण और स्थापन में आगे कोई वृद्धि न हो। इस नीति के अनुसार संयुक्तराष्ट्र-स्थित भारतीय शिष्टमंडल ने ऐसे अनेक प्रस्तावों का समर्थन किया है जिनका लक्ष्य यह था कि उक्त हथियारों का और अधिक प्रसार न हो। महासभा ने पिछले हेमन्त में, अपने १६वें अधिवेशन में, ऐसे दो प्रस्ताव पास किये, जिनमें से एक आयरलैंड ने पेश किया था और दूसरा स्वीडन ने।

स्वीडन के प्रस्ताव पर अमल करते हुए, संयुक्तराष्ट्र के महासचिव ने सदस्य-राज्यों के पास पत्र भेजकर पूछा कि जिन देशों के पास अणु हथियार नहीं हैं, वे किन स्थितियों में यह विशिष्ट वचन देने को राजी होंगे कि वे उक्त हथियार न तो बनायेंगे, न किसी अन्य प्रकार प्राप्त करेंगे, तथा भविष्य में किसी अन्य देश की ओर से इन हथियारों का अपने प्रदेश में लाया जाना नामंजूर कर देंगे। महासचिव की जिज्ञासा का जो उत्तर भारत सरकार ने भेजा, उसमें इस मसले के बारे में अपना दृष्टिकोण फिर से दोहराया। इस उत्तर की प्रति सदन की मेज पर रख दी गई

है। (ऊपर देखिये)। ऐसा समझा जाता है कि बहुत से अन्य देशों ने भी स्वीडिश प्रस्ताव के तत्व और अभिप्राय से अपनी पूरी सहानुभूति व्यक्त की है, लेकिन महासचिव को जो उत्तर प्राप्त हुए हैं, उनका पूरा ब्यौरा अभी भारत सरकार को मालूम नहीं हुआ है।]

**श्री भगवत नारायण भार्गव** : क्या यह सही है कि युनाइटेड नेशंस की जनरल असेम्बली के रेजोल्यूशन नं० १६६४ के होते हुए भी युनाइटेड स्टेट्स आफ अमेरिका न्यूक्लियर वेपंस पाकिस्तान को देता रहा है और अब भी दे रहा है ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I do not know what arms the U.S.A. supplies to Pakistan.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: May I know the number of States which have not fallen in line with the Government of India's proposal in this respect?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I do not know what he means by the Government of India's proposal. There were two resolutions in the General Assembly which we supported and the Government of India was asked to send its comments on the resolution, the Swedish resolution, adopted by the General Assembly and that statement has just now been placed on the Table of the House.

**श्री भगवत नारायण भार्गव** : क्या गवर्नमेंट का ध्यान उन समाचारों पर नहीं गया है जो कि कई बार समाचारपत्रों में प्रकाशित हुए हैं कि अमेरिका के अधिकारियों ने यह कहा है कि हम उनको न्यूक्लियर वेपंस इसलिये देते हैं जिसमें कि हिंदुस्तान डरा रहे और वह पाकिस्तान पर हमला न कर सके ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Yes, Sir, we have seen those reports.

SHRI N. C. KASLIWAL: May I know whether Government accept the position that the nuclear weapons should not be transferred not only to non-nuclear States but to States which also manufacture them?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: That is one of the suggestions made in our comments. May I read the three points, Sir?

- (i) all those States not yet manufacturing these weapons or permitting them on their territory, should undertake not to do so;
- (ii) the weapons already in existence should be confined to the territory of the States which manufactured them; and
- (iii) the latter, as required by General Assembly Resolution 1648 (XVI) should bind themselves by a Treaty banning nuclear tests under appropriate controls; and pending such a treaty, they should refrain from such tests.

SHRI N. C. KASLIWAL: As a corollary to this question, may I know whether Government hold that the knowledge of manufacture of these nuclear weapons should also not be shared by those States who manufacture them with other States which do not manufacture them?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I do not think so.

श्री भगवत नारायण भागवत : जो स्टेट-मेंट सरकार ने मेज पर रखा है उसके पैराग्राफ ३ पर यह है :

"It is also necessary to undertake immediately a programme for the dismantlement or conversion to peaceful use of all nuclear weapons that are in existence."

इसके संबंध में भारत सरकार को क्या कोई सूचना मिली है कि किसी राज्य ने इस बात के ऊपर कार्यवाही की है कि न्यूक्लियर वेपंस डिस्मैटिल किये जायें या शांतिपूर्ण कार्यों के लिये वे प्रयोग में लाये जायें ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: No, Sir, we have not received any news.

SHRI A. D. MANI: I would like the Minister to give a clear answer to my hon. friend, Mr. Reddy's question. We should like to know what negative or *abstention votes were cast against the Swedish Resolution* because that would show the number of persons who are not in favour of our proposal.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I did not follow the question, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: When the Resolution was passed in the General Assembly, how many abstentions were there?

SHRI A. D. MANI: And how many negative votes were there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: She has not got it perhaps.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: it was adopted unanimously, Sir.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The proposal sponsored by Ireland, as well as the other Resolution by Sweden, was passed unanimously.

#### TRANSFER OF C.P.W.D. STAFF TO N.D.M.C.

\*73. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 214 in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th March, 1962 and state:

(a) whether any further representations have been received from the affected persons of the Horticulture Department of the C.P.W.D. against their transfer to the New Delhi Municipal Committee;