

Republic were prepared to validate these contracts and expressed a desire that the existing Management should continue to operate in order to ensure that there was no interruption in these services. The private firms, however, were not willing to continue, and stated their intention of leaving Hanoi before 8th October, 1954. After discussions with the two parties, the International Commission proposed the following measures to ensure that there was no break in essential services:

- (a) All essential equipment for the running of these installations should be left behind;
- (b) Sufficient supply of coal for two months and spare-parts and other equipment for two years should be left behind;
- (c) Although the Management of these firms would pass on to the Democratic Republic authorities, technicians and specialised personnel should be induced to remain, provided the Democratic Republic authorities would give necessary guarantees in respect of their persons and property.
- (d) Specialised personnel of the Democratic Republic could be invited to Hanoi so as to effect the change-over of these services gradually before the date of evacuation.

54. All the above proposals were acted on by both parties and just as in the case of military withdrawals and transfers, the transfer of civil and administrative services, public buildings and public offices, and essential public services was carried out successfully by the two parties. No break occurred in any of these services in spite of the difficult circumstances in which they were transferred.

55. The above arrangements which were adopted for the transfer of Hanoi on the 10th of October, 1954, i.e., at the end of 80 days, were equally successfully applied to the transfer of the HAIDUONG perimeter at the end of 100 days i.e., on the 30th of October, 1954.

56. The Commission has drawn the attention of the two parties to the successful transfer of administrative and public services as well as the orderly transfer of military authority in Hanoi and Haiduong and has recommended that they should adopt a similar procedure for the transfer of all the other provisional assembly areas. Transfer of Hanoi and Haiduong showed that orderly transfer could only take place if the two parties co-operated in the process and, well in advance of the dead-line, held joint discussions and agreed upon an integrated plan of withdrawal and transfer. The Commission has issued