

Nepal Government have closed the Himalayan Peaks to foreign Expeditions;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
(c) its reaction on India?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) The Government of Nepal have announced that pending further decision no new permits to climb mountain peaks in Nepal will be granted.

(b) The Nepalese announcement states that the reason for this decision is the difficulty of communications with the expeditions in mountain regions.

(c) The Indian expedition to climb Mount Everest, already in Nepal, is not affected.

Defence Study Team from Canada

1904. { Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:
Shri Kanakasabai:
Shri M. N. Swami:
Shri Kolla Venkaiah:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study team from Canada's National Defence College is visiting India presently; and

(b) if so, the main object and the outcome of its visit?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Defence (Dr. D. S. Raju): (a) and (b). A party of 18 consisting of Directing Staff and student-officers of the National Defence College of Canada visited India from 22nd to 27th March, 1965.

Such parties from Defence Colleges visit various countries every year to enable student-officers to broaden their outlook. While India is included the itinerary of the National Defence

College of Canada, Imperial Defence College of U.K., National War College of U.S.A. and the National Defence College of Thailand, teams from our National Defence College have also been visiting neighbouring countries.

Rehabilitation Repatriates from Burma and Ceylon

1905. { Shri M. P. Swamy:
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of repatriates from Burma and Ceylon who have been allocated to Madras State for rehabilitation;

(b) the number of repatriates who have not so far been rehabilitated; and

(c) the present programmes, if any either by Central or State Governments for their rehabilitation?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) About 34,100 repatriates from Burma had arrived in Madras State by 21st March, 1965. No allocation to States have been made. It is, however, expected that the majority of repatriates from Burma and Ceylon would like to settle in Madras State.

The Prime Minister has said that this problem would be dealt with as a national one.

(b) Repatriates from Burma are in various stages of rehabilitation. It can be stated, however, that roughly 15,000 repatriates are in transit camps at present.

No Indian repatriates have as yet arrived in India from Ceylon under the Agreement of October, 1964.

(c) In reply to Starred Questions Nos. 2 and 16 dated 7-9-1964, a detailed statement was placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha listing among other things the main facilities given by the Government of India to Indians