Facilities given to M.Ps. who visited Taiwan

*399. Shri Indrajit Gupta: Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether facilities were given to a group of M.Ps. to visit Taiwan last September; and
- (b) whether this indicates any shift in the Government's stand on recognition of the People's Republic of China and non-recognition of the Taiwan regime?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) A group of M.Ps. belonging to the Opposition parties visited Formosa last September. There was, however, no question of the Government giving them any special facilities for these visits.

(b) No. Sir.

Changes in Passport Rules

*400. Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Shri S. M. Banerjee: Shri Daji: Shri Yashpal Singh: Shri Mohammed Koya:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have made some changes in the Passport Rules; and
- (b) if so, the main changes made in the existing Rules and the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The changes have been introduced to enable expeditious handling of applications. A statement is placed on the Table of the House giving the changes made. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7361/66].

Sexy Films

*401. Shri B K. Das: Dr. M. M. Das: Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Shri S, C. Samanta: Shri Subodh Hansda: Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Shri P. C. Borooah; Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of West Bengal have written to the Central Government about the menace of a large number of films produced in the country in which the appeal to sex and base human instincts are predominant:
- (b) whether the State Government have requested for a stricter censor-ship in this regard; and
- (c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Silt Movements

*402. Shri Bhagwat Jha Axad: Dr. M. M. Das: Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Shri S. C. Samanta: Shri Subodh Hansda: Shri Vishwa Nath Pandoy:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the investigations by the Atomic Energy Establishment about the movement of silts in the Palk Strait in connection with the Sethusamudram Project have been completed; and
- (b) if so, the total expenditure for carrying out the investigations and the action taken thereon?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An expenditure of approximately Rs. 56,500 has been incurred. The results of the radiotracer experiments indicating the direction of the movement of the silt on the sea bed have