

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted into the matter; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVISINH SOLANKI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Some cases where passports are suspected to have been issued on strength of dubious documents have come to notice which have been referred to the police for investigation. Results of investigation are awaited. 429-30

**National Institute to Monitor/Check
Natural Calamities**

628. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a national institute to monitor/check natural calamities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c). A Proposal to set up a National Institute for Disaster Management is under the consideration of the Government. The proposed functions of the Institute are, *inter alia*.

- a) documentation in respect of different facets of disaster management;
- b) research;
- c) human resource development

programmes; and

- d) promotion of public awareness about disasters and of community response and participation in relief and disaster reduction.

[English]

Contempt of National Flag

629. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:
SHRI HARU KISHORE SINGH:
SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI:
SHRI PARASRAM BHARD-
WAJ:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item regarding contempt of the National Flag by the Delhi Administration by Using it for carrying outdated records and waste papers as reported in the Indian Express dated January 21, 1992;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been ordered into the matter; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken against the erring persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A preliminary inquiry into the matter was conducted by Addl. District Magistrate(HQ), Delhi. On the basis of the inquiry report, the Store-Keeper and two LDCs of Deputy Commissioner's Office were placed under suspension. The Caretaker of that office has been transferred and it has been decided to initiate disciplinary proceedings against him.