

(ii) कर्मचारियों को सतर्क रहने के आदेश दे दिए गए हैं ताकि स्मारकों/स्थलों में चोरी और मूर्ति-विनाश को रोका जा सके।

(iii) स्मारकों/स्थलों में कलाकृतियों को सुरक्षित रखने में उनके सहयोग के लिए राज्य सरकारों से अनुरोध किया गया है।

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG SEAMEN

647. SHRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to appoint a committee to study unemployment among Indian Seamen; and

(b) if so, the Constitution of the Committee and its functions ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (DR. V. K. R. V. RAO):

(a) Yes.

(b) The composition and terms of reference of the Committee are expected to be finalised shortly.

SHIPMENT OF HANDLOOM GOODS TO ADEN FROM MADRAS PORT

648. SHRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that no consignment of Handloom goods to Aden is accepted from Madras by the Indian Shipping Companies;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether Government propose to make arrangements for taking shipments to Aden from Madras port also ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (DR. V. K. R. V. RAO):

(a) to (c). Due to the closure of Suez Canal, the vessels plying between India and Europe, which used to cater to the Aden traffic enroute, are now operating *via* the Cape of Good Hope. This has naturally caused difficulties and delays in the shipment of goods to Aden and other ports in the Red Sea. However, special arrangements have been made by the Indian shipping companies to cover traffic from Indian ports, including Madras, to the United Arab Republic primarily and when these vessels

are fixed for Port Suez they also carry cargoes for wayports like Aden, subject to availability of space and sufficient inducement by way of adequate freight rate and sizeable quantity of cargo. Four such vessels were fixed for Suez and were prepared to accept cargo for Aden and other Red Sea ports but shippers did not show interest in these vessels because they were able to obtain space for these ports at cheaper rates from competing foreign vessels. When an Indian ship fixed for U.A. R. cargo was in Madras in October last, she was offered handloom products and other cargo for Aden but she declined it because she was bound for Alexandria *via* the Cape of Good Hope and not for Suez *via* Aden and Red Sea.

REQUEST FOR CLOSURE OF DAKSHINA

BHARAT HINDI PRACHARA SABHA

649. SHRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received by Government from the Tamilnad Anti-Hindi Agitation Council requesting the closure of the Dakshina Bharat Hindi Prachara Sabha at Madras; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI SHER SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

SOVIET MONEY FOR CANDIDATES IN GENERAL ELECTIONS

650. SHRI CHARANJIT RAI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Soviet Union's Intelligence Agency (K.G.B.) had, through the Soviet Embassy in Delhi, distributed large sums of money to candidates belonging to the various parties, including those of Congress in the last General Elections ; and

(b) if so, whether the report will be laid on the Table.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) and (b). The Intelligence Bureau, who were asked to make enquiries into the use of foreign funds in the recent elections and for other purposes, have submitted a report. This is being examined.