

ensure the safety and security of our diplomatic personnel in view of Pakistan's flagrant violation of diplomatic etiquette and norms ?

VIDESH MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Her luggage and even her hand bag were searched while emplaning at Dacca and she was prevented from boarding the aeroplane for Delhi at Karachi Airport on the 21st of April, 1971. Two days later, another attempt was made to prevent her from leaving Pakistan in spite of the fact that an assurance of safe conduct had been obtained from the Pakistan Foreign Office.

(c) Government have strongly protested against the action of the Pakistan authorities and have pointed out that the safety and security of our personnel is that Government's responsibility.

Visit to Bangla Desh by a Labour Member of Parliament of U.K.

84. **SHRI C. CHITTIBABU :** Will the **VIDESH MANTRI** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Labour Member of Parliament of U. K. who had recently been on a visit to India and Bangla Desh had suggested Commonwealth action including convening of a special Conference of Commonwealth countries to end the war and genocide in Bangla Desh; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to that suggestion ?

VIDESH MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Government have seen reports to this effect.

(b) Government have been in touch with various countries including members of the Commonwealth, urging upon them the urgent necessity to use their influence with Pakistan to bring an immediate end to the genocide in East Bengal.

DDT Factory in Maharashtra

85. **SHRI C. CHITTIBABU :** Will the **PETROLEUM AUR RASAYAN MANTRI** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are setting up a D.D.T. Factory in Maharashtra;

(b) whether some countries like Canada, Sweden, Hungary, Norway, Japan and Cyprus have banned the use of D.D.T.; and

(c) whether in view of the international banning of the D.D.T., Government will abandon the idea of setting up the D.D.T. Factory in Maharashtra ?

PETROLEUM AUR RASAYAN MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) A proposal to set up a DDT Factory in Maharashtra at Rasayani is still under consideration.

(b) Government have information that certain foreign countries have restricted the use of DDT. Sweden is reported to have restored its use for certain agricultural purposes based on economic consideration.

(c) No. A review of the future requirements of DDT, which was recently made, has, however, revealed that these shall be substantially lower than what were anticipated earlier.

Rise in the Prices of popular Medicines

86. **SHRI T. S. LAKSHMANAN :** Will the **PETROLEUM AUR RASAYAN MANTRI** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the retail prices of popular medicines like APC, Milk of Magnesia etc. have gone up by 25 to 50 per cent since January;

(b) whether the increase in the prices of these medicines is due to Drug (Prices Control) Order, 1970; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to ensure stability of prices of the popular medicines ?