

Indians killed in riots in Madagascar

5599. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH :
SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some persons of Indian origin have recently lost their lives and property during anti-Indian riots in Madagascar; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the steps taken by Government to protect the Indians ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) No loss of life among persons of Indian origin has been reported. According to a preliminary assessment 150 shops and 107 houses belonging to persons of Indian origin were looted and 21 shops and 41 residences were burnt down. The situation has now returned normal.

(b) Government has urged the Government of Madagascar to extend the fullest protection to all Indians and persons of Indian origin.

Outcome of Romanian President's visit

5600. SHRI S. M. GURADDI :
SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Romanian President visited India recently and held talks with the Prime Minister;

(b) if so, whether India-China relations and Pakistan's nuclear programme also figured during the talks; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the talks held with Romanian President ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The wide-ranging talks include regional issues.

(c) Both sides expressed satisfaction at the outcome of the talks. There was broad identity or close proximity of views on the international subjects. It is hoped that the visit would lead to further strengthening of Indo-Romanian bilateral relations.

Demand for deferment of cotton export

5601. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Southern India Mills Association urged Union Government to defer further export of cotton in view of the continuous increase in cotton prices affecting the spinning industry in the South; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The prices of cotton have not risen unduly high as compared to those of 1984-85. Since there is adequate availability of cotton and the prices have also stabilised, there is no question of deferment of exports of cotton.

World Bank loan for textile mills in cooperative sector

5602. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of textile mills functioning under cooperative sector in the country at present and their number, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that the World Bank has sanctioned a massive loan to the cooperative sector of the textile industries;