

(b) It is understood that the scope of the Report did not include investigations on the suitability or otherwise of the Port as an ideal on-shore base for off-shore exploration, as this was not part of their terms of reference.

(c) The executive responsibility for the development of ports other than Major Ports vests in the State Government. Government of India has no proposal at present for the development of this Port.

Privileges Enjoyed by Shri Jayaprakash Narayan

1806. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the wide spread criticism that the extraordinary privileges enjoyed by Shri Jayaprakash Narayan is gradually making him an extra-constitutional centre of power;

(b) whether Shri Narayan has been allowed frequently to broadcast his messages through All India Radio and Television;

(c) whether Shri Narayan had been provided with an IAF aircraft for going to Bombay while he fell ill; and

(d) how Government propose to explain this strange and extra-constitutional privileges allowed to be enjoyed by an ordinary citizen?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) and (d). No extraordinary privileges were extended to Shri Jayaprakash Narayan nor is Government aware of any wide-spread criticism in this regard. However, certain facilities and courtesies have been extended to him in consideration of his health and his standing as a national figure. The rest of the question does not arise.

(b) nothing more has been done in this matter than would be normally the case in respect of a person of his

eminence, standing in public life and the wide support that his views command in the country.

(c) Yes, Sir. Airlift was provided to Shri Jayaprakash Narayan from Patna to Bombay on the 25th March, 1977 in an IAF aircraft, as he was critically ill and there was no alternative but to rush him to his hospital in Bombay.

Meeting of Vice-President Acting as President of India with Chief Justice of India regarding Dissolution of State Assemblies

1307. SHRI U. S. PATIL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vice-President acting as President of India Shri Jatti had discussion with the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India in connection with the dissolution of Assemblies in nine States when the matter was pending before them; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). Government's attention has been drawn to the observations of Justice Goswami in his judgment dated 6th May, 1977 in State of Rajasthan etc. *versus* Union of India and connected writ petitions as well as the press statement made by the Chief Justice of India, which appeared on 7th May, 1977 in all leading newspapers. In view of the relevant provisions of the Constitution and practices and conventions of the House, it would not be appropriate for Government to say anything on the subject.

Passing Information to a Foreign Country

1308. SHRI P. K. DEO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Senior Intelligence Officer of R.A.W. was passing informa-