

**Threatening Letter to Indian High Commission.**

4885. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that country's High Commission in London have been threatened for assassination in case a person who is being tried in Srinagar on charges of Bank robbery and murder, is not released immediately;

(b) if so, his reaction in the matter; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for the security of the High Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. KUNDU) :

(a) An anonymous message recorded in a casset tape was received by our High Commissioner in London on 8th November, 1977 threatening his life if a person who was convicted in 1968 in Jammu and Kashmir for armed dacoity and murder was not released immediately. This person had managed to escape from jail on 8/9 December, 1968 and was rearrested in June, 1976 when he, alongwith two other persons, attacked a Bank in Jammu and Kashmir and murdered the Bank Manager.

(b) The case is being dealt with under the process of Law.

(c) Basically, the provision of security for personnel and property of Embassies, High Commissions, Consulates, etc., is the responsibility of the host Governments. For our part, we have advised all our Missions to observe and intensify all departmental security measures and to keep in close liaison with the local foreign offices and security agencies. In selected Missions, home-based security staff have been posted.

In the present case, the matter has been brought to the notice of the U.K. Government for ensuring adequate protective arrangements.

**Construction and completion of Projects in S. E. Asia, West Asia and Africa.**

4886. SHRI GANANATH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the projects which have been completed and are being constructed by Indian firms in the private, public and joint sectors in S.E. Asia, West Asia and Africa and money involved in these projects; 111

(b) how many persons are employed in these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. KUNDU):

(a) and (b). Indian firms are participating in a large number of projects in South-East Asia, West Asia and Africa. The requisite information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House as soon as possible.

**Supersession in P & T Department**

4887. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER GUPTA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers, former Secretary, Ministry of Communications superseded first as Joint Secretary then Additional Secretary and then Secretary;

(b) the post in the pay and date on which he joined in Posts and Telegraphs Department;

(c) the date on which he was promoted to the Telegraph Engineering Service and his academic professional qualifications;

(d) the number of times he was sent to foreign countries with their names for training or for some other assignment while working in the Director General, Posts and Telegraphs, Ministry of Communications; and

(e) the utility/benefit which the Department got from such foreign tours/visits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDHO SAI):

(a) Appointments to senior posts of the level of Joint Secretary and above in the Government of India are filled on the basis of selection on merit from amongst officers belonging to different organised Group 'A' Services keeping in view the requirements of each job and the qualifications and experience of persons within the field of choice. These appointments are made on tenure deputation from various Services. Officers of diverse Services have no common seniority, and as such the question of supersession would not arise in such appointments.

(b) Shri S. M. Agarwal joined as Engineering Supervisor in Posts and Telegraphs Department on 3-11-1941 in the pay scale of Rs. 80-5-120-10-240.