

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes.

(b) The accounts of the Institute are audited by Chartered Accountants. No instance of misuse of public funds by the Institute has been brought to notice by the auditors. If any particular instance of inefficiency is brought to the notice of the authorities of the Institute, I am sure they will do their best to rectify matters. I do not think it is necessary for Government to intervene in the internal arrangements of the Institute. Government nominees are members of various bodies of the Institute and important matters are carefully discussed in such bodies. The Institute has grown greatly and has done very commendable work.

Landslide in N.E.F.A.

- *31. {
 Shri Bose:
 Shrimati Masida Ahmed:
 Shri D. C. Sharma:
 Shri Tangamani:
 Shri Bhakt Darashan:
 Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
 Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of persons including Government employees were buried alive in a landslide in the North-East Frontier Agency on 25/26th May, 1958;

(b) details of the incident;

(c) whether any rescue operation was undertaken after the incident; and

(d) the result thereof?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) Yes, 48 persons are believed to have lost their lives in the accident.

(b) to (d). A statement giving full details is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 11.]

Indians in South Africa

*32. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indians coming under the operation of the South African Government's Group Areas Act are not allowed to sell their property at free market value; and

(b) whether it is also true that these affected Indians can buy houses in an area proclaimed as "Indian" at an increased cost?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) It is understood that the South African Government have prescribed a special procedure for fixing the "basic value" of the affected properties. If the property is sold above the basic value, the Group Areas Development Board must be paid 50% of the excess. If it is sold at less than the basic value the Board must pay the owner 80% of his loss.

(b) The Government of India have no information.

Roving Envoys

- *33. {
 Shri Radha Raman:
 Shri Bimal Ghose:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to appoint in U.S.A. and U.K. additional high officials besides their Ambassador and High Commissioner who might function as Roving Envoys in these countries; and

(b) if so, what specific work will be assigned to them and the term for which these posts will be created?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). There is no proposal to appoint a Roving Ambassador