

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the "*Hindustan Times*" of the 29th April, 1970 wherein the South Korean Consul-General is reported to have stated that he had reasons to believe that members of the North Korean Consulate in New Delhi were indulging in subversive activities; and

(b) whether the North Korean Consulate had spent no less than Rs. 45 lakhs on advertisements in India during the last year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (VIDESH MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI) (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government has been the news item appearing in the *Hindustan Times* of April 29, 1971.

(b) Government are not aware of the exact amount spent on the advertisements.

Cancellation of Turkish News-men Tour of India

823. SHRI NIHAR LASKAR :
SHRI P. GANGADEB :
SHRI M. M. JOSEPH :

Will the MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (VIDESH MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the press reports that Turkish news-men who were on visit to India cancelled their tour and left the country on instructions from their Government;

(b) whether while cancelling the tour they stated that the decision was taken as a result of India's support to the freedom fighters of Bangla Desh; and

(c) if so, the reaction Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (VIDESH MANTRALAYA MEN UP-

MANTRI) (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) A Turkish delegation which visited India in April 1971, returned to Turkey before completing their scheduled programme fully.

(b) According to the visitors they had to curtail the period of their stay in India, due to political developments in their country necessitating their early return to Turkey.

(c) Does not arise.

Central Committee for Assistance to East Bengal Freedom Fighters

824. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUN-JHUNWALA : Will the MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (VIDESH MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether A Central Committee has been formed to send assistance to East Bengal freedom fighters;

(b) if so, the total amount collected by the Committee; and

(c) the nature of assistance given by the Committee?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (VIDESH MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI) (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The Hon'ble Member is obviously referring to the Bangla Desh Assistance Committee, which has been formed to render assistance to refugees from East Bengal.

(b) Rs. 36.5 lakhs.

(c) The Committee is coordinating its relief efforts with the activities of other individuals and groups working for the alleviation of distress of refugees from East Bengal and is concentrating on providing medical assistance and clothing to the refugees. The Committee operates 7 ambulance vans and 28 additional vans are being purchased. All expenses on the vans including doctors and nurses etc. are being met by the Committee.