

been drawn towards the newspapers report regarding shift in the attitude of China over Bangla Desh ; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction there-to ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is happy to note that the Chinese Government favours a reasonable settlement of the East Bengal question.

Arrest of Indian by Pakistan

712. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Newsmen and other Indians who have been arrested by Pakistan Government during the last six months in West Pakistan and Bangla Desh separately ; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to get them released ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No case of arrest of any newsmen or other Indian by Pakistan Governmen has come to our notice during the last six months.

(b) Does not arise.

Unification of Korea

713 SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn towards recent developments in the direction of the unification of North and South Korea independently of foreign intervention; and

(b) whether in view of it, he has taken or proposes taking steps in the United Nations for deleting the "Question of Korea" from the agenda of the 26th General Assembly and for ending U. S. military occupation of South Korea ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The General Assembly of the United Nations this year has decided to postpone consideration of the three agenda items relating to Korea until its next session.

Irregularities Committed in Indian Embassies Abroad

714. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) how many irregularities and misappropriations have been detected in Indian Embassies abroad during the last three years ;

(b) the particulars of such cases and the steps taken in the matter ; and

(c) whether local police were informed in each case and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The following two cases of misappropriation were detected during the last three years in Indian Embassies abroad :

(i) Defalcation of a sum of Rs. 1.7 lakhs by a locally-recruited Cashier of the High Commissioner of India in Britain.

(ii) Defalcation of a sum of £5,240 in the Mails Branch of the High Commissioner of India in Britain by two locally recruited members of the staff.

(b) (i) The case referred to at (i) above was the subject of para 33, pages 42-43 of the Audit Report (Civil) 1970. It was considered by the Public Accounts Committee in their meeting held on 21-9-1970 and their recommendations are given in their First Report (Fifth Lok Sabha). The recommendations will be implemented in accordance with the procedure laid down for the purpose.

(ii) The case referred at (ii) above was the subject of a note in Appendix 1, pages 149-150 of the Audit Report (Civil) 1969. The entire amount misappropriated was recovered and the delinquent officials were dismissed from service.

(c) These cases were not reported to the local police in accordance with diplomatic practice.