

There is also now no hindrance to shipping approaching port of Chalna.

Role of Indian Military Freedom struggle of Bangla Desh

4355. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to write historical account on the role of Indian Military and Para Military Force Border Security Force and Military Intelligence in the freedom struggle of Bangla Desh in cooperation with the Mukti Bahini ; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) and (b). A historical account of the role of Indian Security Forces in the liberation of Bangla Desh is proposed to be prepared and published in due course.

Recruitment Policy for Nationalised Banks

4356. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what progress has been made in adopting a common recruitment policy for the nationalised banks ;

(b) whether Government have worked out or propose to work out a formula for this ; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof and when it is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) to (c). The question of adopting a common recruitment policy for all the nationalised banks is still under the consideration of the Government.

Orders for Survey Ship and Bucket Dredger with Mazagon Dock Ltd.

4358. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Navy proposes to place orders for a Survey Ship and a Bucket Dredger with the Mazagon Dock, Ltd. ; and

(b) if so, by what time ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration and a decision is likely to be taken soon.

Torture of Indian POWs by Pakistani Army

4359. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether several instances of the Pakistani Army authorities indulging in torture and mutilation of captured Indian army personnel during the December war had come to the notice of Government ;

(b) whether International Red Cross was asked to investigate into the matter ; and

(c) if so, the report received from them ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) and (b). Some such instances came to our notice and were referred to International Committee of Red Cross for investigation.

(c) Report is awaited.

Repayment of loan in terms of foreign exchange

4360. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total annual remittances to U.S.A., U. K. and other countries in terms of foreign exchange under various heads during the last three years ; and

(b) what steps are being taken to reduce the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. L1-1888/72]

(b) The Government has been adopting various measures to reduce the remittance liabilities. It has successfully urged and obtained in recent years an increasing proportion of foreign loans on relatively softer terms. A selective policy is adopted in approving