

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) Government of India have no information to this effect.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Regional Pact of South and South-East-Asian Countries

9202. SHRI SWELL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any of the countries of the South-East Asia proposed to be visited by the Prime Minister have approached India formally or informally with the idea of forming a regional pact of South and South-East-Asian countries that will also include India ; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Emergency Commissioned Officers

9203. SHRIMATI NIRLEP KAUR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are working out a scheme to place the released Emergency Commissioned Officers out of the purview of Public Service Commission ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M. R. KRISHNA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Emergency Commissioned Officers

9204. SHRIMATI NIRLEP KAUR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the released Emergency Commissioned Officers are not being absorbed seniority-wise in Government service ; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M. R. KRISHNA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Vacancies in Gazetted services and posts under the Government are filled by selection on the basis of interviews or competitive examinations of applicants or officers who are eligible and suitable for the posts under consideration. Seniority on the basis of service as an ECO will not be a suitable criterion for the purpose.

Emergency Commissioned Officers

9205. SHRIMATI NIRLEP KAUR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that no State Government have so far appointed any released Emergency Commissioned Officer against a suitable post ; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M. R. KRISHNA) : (a) and (b). No, Sir ; some released Emergency Commissioned Officers have been appointed to posts under State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

Army Officers in Commercial Firms

9206. SHRI JUGAL MONDAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 6873 on the 10th April, 1968 and state :

(a) the names and addresses of the commercial firms in which the military officers are employed or with which they are associated as a part of the management and emoluments of each of them ; and

(b) whether these Officers during their official career had any dealings with their present employers ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—112/68.]

(b) No, Sir.