

on the part of the Central Government does not arise.

**Streamlining of Administration in
External Affairs Ministry**

9236. SHRI P. K. DEO :

SHRI S. P. RAMAMOORTHY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any concrete steps have been initiated by the Central Government to streamline the administration of the Ministry of External Affairs on the basis of the recommendations of the N. R. Pillai Report ;

(b) whether, in future, promotions to higher posts will be strictly on merit ; and

(c) in what way is this likely to effect the administrative machinery and whether any reactions from the officers in the Ministry of External Affairs have been received in this regard ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) Government have taken various measures to implement the recommendations of the Committee on the Indian Foreign Service.

(b) and (c). It is a well recognised policy of Government that promotions to higher posts are on merit. Government have received no representations against this policy from the officers of the Ministry of External Affairs.

Recovery of Parachute of Chinese Origin

9237. SHRI D. N. PATODIA :

SHRI CHENGALRAYA
NAIDU :

SHRI BENI SHANKER
SHARMA :

SHRI D. C. SHARMA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that recently some parachute of Chinese Origin have been found on the Kerala coast ;

(b) whether investigations into the matter have been made ;

(c) whether the investigations have revealed any clue to the fact that there is a continuous supply of chinese arms to India through the Kerala coast ; and

(d) if so, the steps which have been taken to curb such activities ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. However, a box containing parachute singals with Japanese and English markings was found at Cranganore in Kerala State.

(b) Samples have been sent to the appropriate authorities for investigation and report. Prima facie, it appears that the box contained distress rocket flares, which might have been dumped overboard by some passing vessel/fishing vessel as the validity of the equipment expired in June, 1967, as borne out by the markings.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Contract With Staff Artistes of A. I. R.

9238. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :
SHRI BHAGABAN DAS :
SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE :
SHRI DEVEN SEN :
SHRI RAMAVATAR
SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government, on or about the 23rd November, 1964 declared on the floor of this house that the A. I. R. Staff Artistes would be put on five year contracts with effect from the 1st October, 1964 ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government further declared that staff artistes would be allowed to work till the age of 60 years ;

(c) if so, whether that has been implemented ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.