

प्रधान मंत्री श्री शक्ति मंत्री, योजना मंत्री तथा वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी): (क) भारत में राजनैतिक संरक्षण देने के कोई नियम नहीं हैं। सरकार अपने प्रभुसत्तात्मक अधिकार और विवेक से ऐसे मामलों का निर्णय करती है और प्रत्येक मामले के गुण दोषों पर विचार करके निर्णय किया जाता है।

(ख) जी नहीं।

Visit by Commander-in-Chief of the Soviet Navy

1504. SHRI D. C. SHARMA:
SHRI YASHPAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commander-in-Chief of the Soviet Navy visited India recently as the head of a Soviet Naval delegation;

(b) if so, the purpose of his visit; and

(c) the outcome of the talks held with him?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Commander-in-Chief of the Navy of the USSR recently visited India accompanied by 6 Staff Officers.

(b) It was a goodwill visit to reciprocate the visit paid by our Chief of the Navy-Staff to the USSR in 1967.

(c) Question does not arise, this being a goodwill visit.

Study Group for Backward Classes

1505. SHRI D. R. PARMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a study group for backward classes under the Planning Commission, led by Shri Shrikant Sheth, visited the State of Gujarat in October, 1967;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the study group has pointed out that

major part of funds is being spent on administration rather than actual works for the uplift and benefit of backward classes;

(c) the other suggestions made by the study group; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto and the action taken by Government?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) to (c). A Study Team on Tribal Development Programmes has been set up by the Committee on Plan Projects at the suggestion of the Planning Commission. The Team has Shri P. Shilu Ao as Chairman and Sarvashri L. M. Shrikant and T. Sivasankar as Members. On behalf of the Study Team, Shri Shrikant visited certain tribal areas of Gujarat in October 1967 and held discussions with the State authorities, non-officials, etc. The Study Team has not yet submitted a report.

(d) Does not arise since the report of the Study Team is not yet ready.

Foreign Tours by Ministers

1506. SHRI K. M. KOUSHIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign tours under taken by the Ministers and the Deputy Ministers, are made in consultation with the Prime Minister; and

(b) on what grounds they are usually permitted?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Foreign tours are undertaken by the Ministers and Deputy Ministers whenever these are regarded as useful for the discharge of their duties.