

U.A.R. Film Festival in India

534. Shri Ram Harkh Yadav: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have arranged for a U.A.R. Film Festival in India;

(b) if so, the venue thereof; and

(c) the participants in the festival?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) New Delhi from 3-12-65 to 8-12-65 and Bombay from 10-12-65 to 16-12-65.

(c) The U.A.R. Government will send a delegation of film personnel.

Persecution of an Indian National in China

535. Shri Ram Harkh Yadav: Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian national named M. L. Das, has been maliciously convicted for a long term of rigorous imprisonment on a charge of a heinous offence by a Shanghai Court in China and was refused proper legal aid;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto and the relief rendered to the said national?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). On the 29th October, 1963 Shri M. L. Das residing in Shanghai, China, was arrested by Chinese police authorities, who, despite repeated protests by the Indian Embassy in Peking, have failed to acquaint Government of India with the full details of the allegations against Shri M. L. Das. The Government of India have lodged several protests with the Chinese Government against their refusal to permit the Indian Embassy to extend consular

1743 (A) LSD—3.

protection as recognised under international law, to Shri M. L. Das. Indian Embassy officials have also been visiting Shri M. L. Das in jail, when permitted by the Chinese authorities. A copy of Government of India's latest protest to the Chinese Government on this issue, together with the Chinese note under reply, is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5143/65].

Aircraft Accidents in NEFA

536. Shri Dhuleshwar Meena: Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aircraft accidents in NEFA during the last five months; and

(b) the causes thereof?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) There has been one IAF aircraft accident in NEFA since 15th June, 1965.

(b) A Court of Inquiry has been appointed to investigate the accident. Full details will be known when the report of the Court of Inquiry is received.

Postal Services in Orissa

537. Shri Dhuleshwar Meena: Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages covered by Postal Services in Orissa till the end of October, 1965; and

(b) the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Communications (Shri Bhagavati): (a) and (b). By the end of the First Five Year Plan itself all the inhabited villages in Orissa had the facility of delivery of mails either through the regular staff of Post Office