

Thomas): The work on the augmentation of facilities required for the construction of the Frigates in the Mazagon Dock Limited, Bombay, is being executed on a priority basis. The training of the officers and technicians of the Mazagon Dock Limited, Bombay, for the Frigate project is progressing in the shipyards of the collaborators, M/s. Vickers Limited and M/s. Yarrow & Co. Limited. Orders for the supply of machinery and equipment, of the collaborators' manufacture, for the first Frigate, have been placed on them. Orders for the supply of special steel, required for the first Frigate, too have been placed in the U.K.

Freedom Fighter Planes from U.S.A.

1434. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:

Shri R. S. Pandey:

Shri Rajeshwar Patel:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 569 on the 13th September, 1965 and state the progress made with regard to the procurement of Freedom Fighter planes for IAF from the U.S.A. Government?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): The US Government have suspended the shipment of all military supplies to India against outstanding commitments and have deferred consideration of new proposals for military assistance. In this context the procurement proposal has made no progress.

भारत-पाकिस्तान सीमा पर सामरिक निर्माण

1435. श्री मुलशम :

श्री बूढा सिंह :

श्री बसपाल सिंह :

क्या रक्षा मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पाकिस्तान सरकार ने भारत-पाकिस्तान सीमा पर

लाहौर अंचल में इण्डोगिल नहर पर अपनी ओर मजबूत सामरिक निर्माण कर रखा था ;

(ख) इससे भारत सरकार को क्या अनुभव प्राप्त हुआ है; और

(ग) क्या पंजाब सीमा पर भी ऐसे ही प्रतिरक्षा प्रबन्ध करने का विचार है ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री (श्री यशवन्तराय चव्हाण) : (क) से (ग). यह सच है कि पाकिस्तान सरकार ने सीमा के अपनी ओर लाहौर क्षेत्र में कई रक्षा संरचनाओं का निर्माण कर रखा था। अपनी ओर रक्षा प्रबन्ध करने में इन पर विचार किया जाता है, और किया जाएगा।

Pak. Paratroopers

1436. Shri B. S. Pandey:

Shri Jashvant Mehta:

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:

Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the number of Pakistani Paratroopers released through the planes by Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the number of the Paratroopers captured so far?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) and (b). A few hundred Pakistani armed paratroopers were dropped near airfields close to the India-West Pakistan border on 6th September. The bulk of the paratroopers dropped by Pakistan has been accounted for, either by killing or capture or escape back to Pakistan.

Bank of China

1437. Shri R. S. Pandey: Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that China has recently protested against the closure of the Bank of China and about its assets;

(b) if so, the contents of the Chinese protest note; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

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

(b) and (c). The Chinese note together with Government of India's reply dated the 29th October, 1965, are being laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5253/65].

Recruiting Centres in Punjab

1438. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that youngmen are coming in very large numbers at the Recruiting Centres in Punjab, especially in the backward areas, but a few of them are recruited and others return disappointed; and

(b) if so, whether Government will set up more recruiting centres in the above area?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) From recruitment angle there is no backward area in Punjab. In the Army candidates who conform to the physical standards and age limits are enrolled subject to the availability of demands irrespective of the area they come from. In the Air Force, however, recruitment is made on the basis of psychological tests administered to the candidates and those who make the minimum grade for selection and are medically fit are recruited against the available vacancies. Those selected candidates who are not covered by the available vacancies are kept on the waiting lists for absorption in the subsequent courses subject to their fulfilling the conditions of enrolment at that time. Response to recruitment in Punjab in both the Services is satisfactory.

(b) In view of the satisfactory response as stated in reply to part (a) of the question, it is not intended to

set up any additional Recruiting Offices either for Army or Air Force in any part of the Punjab.

Sikkim-Tibet Border

**1439. Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri P. C. Borooah:**

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the declaration by the Chinese Foreign Minister that the Sikkim-Tibet border does not come within the purview of the Sino-Indian border; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

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

(b) The present Chinese attitude is a complete change from China's earlier stand on this issue. As is well-known, special treaty relations exist between India and Sikkim, and as recently as 1960, the Chinese Premier, Mr. Chou En-lai, speaking at a press conference in New Delhi had endorsed this relationship. He declared at this press conference, "China respects India's relations with Sikkim and Bhutan".

Telephone Exchanges in Border Areas

1440. Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a special study of the working of the Telephone Exchanges in border areas has been made;

(b) if so, the general conclusions arrived at; and

(c) the steps being taken to protect the existing as well as new Telephone Exchange buildings from enemy bombing?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Communications (Shri Bhagavati): (a) and (b). The work-