

reply to the following questions, asked recently in the Lok Sabha :

- (i) Starred Question No. 454, dated 6th March, 1968.
- (ii) Unstarred Question No. 10111, dated 8th May, 1968, and
- (iii) Unstarred Question No. 676, dated the 24th July, 1968.

MALAYISA-PHILIPPINES DISPUTE

3081. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Malaysia has sought India's support in her dispute with Philippines over Sabah; and

(b) if so, Government's attitude thereon ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) Both Malaysia and Philippines have conveyed to us their respective stands on Sabah.

(b) The Government of India hopes that the two sides will be able to resolve this matter amicably by mutual discussions.

PAK. ACCUSATION AGAINST INDIA ON IMPLEMENTATION OF KUTCH AWARD

3083. SHRI N. R. LASKAR :
SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU:
SHRI ANBUCHZHIAN :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pakistan Government have been accusing India of delaying the implementation of the Kutch Award publicly in International forums as a part of their anti-Indian tirade;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) when the award is likely to be fully implemented ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) The Government of India are not aware of any such publicity by

the Government of Pakistan in international forums.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The demarcation work in accordance with the Kutch Tribunal's Award is likely to be completed by May, 1969.

INDIAN CONSULATE IN SAIGON

3085. SHRI N. R. LASKAR :
SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU:
SHRI D. C. SHARMA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the building of the Indian Consulate in Saigon was badly damaged on the 11th June, 1968 due to the Vietcong rocket attack on the city of Saigon;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some persons in the staff were also injured and killed due to the attacks;

(c) if so, the total loss suffered by our consulate there; and

(d) the steps which have been taken to protect the staff and building in Saigon ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) The building in which Consulate-General of India is housed is a multi-storeyed apartment type building. The office of the Consulate-General is situated on part of the first floor of the building. On the morning of 11th June a rocket hit the pavement in front of the building damaging badly one shop on the ground floor; due to impact of this explosion many glass panes in the building including those in the office of Consulate-General were broken. In one room of the office of the Consulate General there were couple of cracks in the wall.

(b) No member of the staff of the Consulate-General was injured or killed.

(c) The damage to office premises of the Consulate-General, has been repaired by the landlord of the building.

(d) Our Consulate staff takes all possible steps to safeguard their persons and property as are practicable in the prevailing conditions in Saigon.