

(a) whether Thailand, Philippines and Malaysia have proposed any new peace talks on Vietnam;

(b) whether Government have got any official information and the details thereof; and

(c) if so, their reaction thereon?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). The Government of India have been informed through the Indian Ambassador in Bangkok of the joint appeal made by the Governments of Thailand, Malaysia and the Philippines concerning the situation in Vietnam. Sixteen other countries including India were also known to have been approached to join in an urgent appeal to the Leaders of all countries involved in the war in Vietnam to come to the conference table with view to achieving an honourable and early settlement of the problem;

(c) The Government of India are concerned about the great danger to Asia inherent in an escalation of the Vietnam conflict and are of the view that for any negotiations to become feasible, bombing of North Vietnam should be stopped unconditionally first.

Shri Kamaraj's Visit to East Germany

3625. Shri Mohammed Koya: Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a report published in the 'London Times' of the 4th August, 1966 about Shri K. Kamaraj Nadar's visit to East Germany;

(b) whether he has received any official communication from West Germany; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

Married Accommodation for Service Officers

3626. Shri T. Subramanyam: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) how long a Service Officer has to wait for his married accommodation; and

(b) how many Officers are on the waiting list for such accommodation?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) The waiting period differs from station to station depending on the availability of married accommodation at that station and the number of married service officers serving at that station.

(b) The requisite information is being collected from the local military authorities and will be laid on the Table of the House, when received.

Paddy Seeds

3627. Shri Vasudevan Nair: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Biology Department of the Trombay Atomic Energy Establishment has developed two new varieties of paddy seeds;

(b) if, so whether it is a fact that these seeds are best suited for cultivation in Kerala; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to use these seeds for extensive cultivation?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) Yes.

(b) Rice variety *Ptb-10* is popular in Kerala and mutants of this variety were successfully tried in three places in Kerala

(c) Large scale yield trials of *Ptb-10* mutants are planned by the Agricultural College and Research Institute, Vellayani.