

(c) whether Government have received any request from Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan for help in achieving Pakhtoonistan; and

(d) if so, what is the nature of the request and the steps which have been taken by Government thereon?

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

(b) to (d). Government policy and information in this respect are contained in the statements made by the Deputy Minister, in the Lok Sabha on 13th November, 1968 during the half-an-hour discussion.

Emergency Commissioned Officers

2281. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SALVE:
SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD:
SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:
SHRI D. N. PATODIA:
SHRI S. R. DAMANI:
SHRI SHARDA NAND:
SHRI R. K. SINHA:
SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Emergency Commissioned Officers of the Indian Army who have been released from the Army so far;

(b) the number of Emergency Commissioned Officers who have so far been rehabilitated;

(c) the total number of Emergency Commissioned Officers who have to be rehabilitated; and

(d) the additional opportunities being created to gainfully employ them?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH): (a) Upto the end of October, 1968, 3048 Emer-

gency Commissioned Officers have been released.

(b) Out of the 3,048 released officers, 1,615 have been rehabilitated upto the end of October, 1968 by absorption in Central/State Government Departments, Public Sector Undertakings or in private sector or reversion to civil posts or self-employment in agriculture or business. 287 ex-ECOs are not being catered for since they either resigned or refused the jobs offered to them or were sent out on disciplinary grounds.

(c) Rehabilitation assistance is still required for the remaining 1146.

(d) A statement containing the various measures taken by Government for the rehabilitation of released Emergency Commissioned Officers is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2343/68].

Conference of Afro-Asian Solidarity Organisation

2282. SHRI R. BARUA:
SHRI N. R. LASKAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India also participated in the Conference of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Organisation held at Cairo some time back;

(b) if so, how many countries participated in the Conference; and

(c) the subject discussed and the decisions arrived at?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) to (c). So far as the Government is concerned, the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation is a non-official body. The question of Government of India participating in the Cairo Conference does not arise. No report concerning the activities of the Organisation would, therefore, be received by the Government of India officially, from the Secretariat of the Organisation.