

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) Since the Government of India have only seen press reports in this connection, the question of its reaction does not arise.

Congo Indians Asked to Leave

492. SHRI V. NARASIMHA RAO :
 SHRI S. KUNDU :
 SHRI S. M. KRISHNA :
 SHRI BAIDHAR BEHERA :
 SHRI RAM KISHAN GUPTA :
 SHRI ARJUN SINGH BHADORIA :
 SHRI SARJOO PANDEY :
 SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL :
 SHRI BANSH NARAIN SINGH :
 SHRI HUKAM CHAND KACHWAI :
 SHRI RAM AVTAR SHARMA :
 SHRI MUHAMMAD SHERIFF :
 SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :
 SHRI S. M. BANEREE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Congo have asked the Indian families living there to leave the country immediately ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) the total number of Indian families affected by this order ;

(d) whether Government have taken up this matter with the Congolese Government ; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (c). According to our information 93 Indian citizens have been asked to leave Congo (Kinshasa) by the Congolese Government.

(b) In terms of a decree issued by the Congolese Government in August, 1969, all foreigners who were in the Congo (i) without authorisation or without proper travel documents, (ii) engaged in trade which should normally be in the hands of local nationals, or (iii) without adequate means of support were required to leave that country and individual orders were issued in each case by that Government.

(d) and (e). So far as Indian nationals

who were affected by these orders were concerned, representations were made to the Congolese Government and they assured us that their cases would be considered sympathetically.

U. S. Ambassador's Reaction to Asian Security Plan

93. SHRI V. NARASIMHA RAO :
 SHRI CHINGALARAYA NAIDU :
 SHRI R. BARUA :
 SHRI N. R. LASKAR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the U. S. Ambassador in India has expressed his country's opposition to an Asian Security Plan ; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Government have seen Press reports of the U. S. Ambassador's statement of the 9th September in Calcutta in which he made a reference to an Asian Security Plan.

(b) Government of India are opposed to joining any military alliances, whether sponsored by America or U.S.S.R.

Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory at Ichapur, West Bengal

494. SHRI LAKHAN LAL KAPOOR :
 SHRI A. SREEDHARAN :
 SHRI K. LAKKAPPA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a final decision to wind up the Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory at Ichapur in West Bengal ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) when Government proposed to wind it up ; and

(d) the arrangements which have been made to provide alternative employment to the retrenched staff of the laboratory ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.