Chinese Military Force Stationed at Tibet-Nepal Border

10399. SHRI NAVAL KISHORE SHARMA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chinese have stationed 4 Divisions of Military personnel including one of the Armoury at the Tibet-Nepal border at a point where the Chinese built road to Nepal meets in Tibet; and

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI SWARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). The facts mentioned in part (a) are not borne out by the information with the Government. It is, however, a fact that the Chinese continue to deploy about 13 to 16 divisions of troops in Tibet, different sectors across the Sino-Nepal and Sino-Indian borders.

Study of Drought and Scarcity Conditions in Rajasthan by Central Team

10400. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central team had studied the drought and scarcity conditions prevailing in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF FINANCE, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF PLANN-ING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) Yea, Sir.

(b) A Central Team visited Raja*than during the first week of May, 1970 to assess the drought situation in the State and the requirement of funds for various drought relief measures. The report of the Team is awaited.

U S Proposal for Solving Middle East issue

10401. SHRI MUHAMMAD SHERIFF : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the plan submitted by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, to U.A.R. leaders in Cairo for the settlement of dispute between U.A.R. and Israel towards overall solution to the Middle East crisis; and

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(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) As far as the Government are aware, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, during his recent visit to Cairo did not advance any specific plan. The discussions he had in Cairo are believed to have centred around the proposals put forward by the U.S. Secretary of State in December, 1969;

(b) Does not arise.

Abolition of Export Duty

10402. SHRI MUHAMMAD SHERIFF : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the meeting of the Consultative Committee attached to his Ministry, the abolition of export duties levied on many items in the wake of devaluation of Rupee was urged ; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI RAM SEWAK) : (a' and (b), Kind attention is invited to the following extract from "the Guidlines to regulate the constitution and functioning of the Consulative Committees for various Ministries/Departments :

"The informal Consultative Committees will hence-forth be known as 'Consultative Commitrees'. These Committees are not, however, compareable to the Standing Committees of Parliament. The deliberations of these Committees would remain informal and no reference to the discussions held in the meetings thereof would be made on the floor of the House."

Report of C. B. I. Regarding Delbi Small Scale Industry

10403. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the special Police Establishment (CBI) has submitted its report regarding the Delhi Small Scale Industry;