

Indian Embassy in Washington for forwarding to Govt. of India ; and

(d) if so, when the report was received by the Indian Embassy and when it was received in India and the action taken thereon ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : (a) The Government of India are aware that the U.S. State Department had commissioned Robert L. Hardgrave who is Professor of Government at the University of Texas at Austin to prepare a study on likely trends in social, political and foreign policies in India in the next five years. The political situation in India envisaged in the event of Smt. Gandhi's sudden death is one of the several scenarios in the study.

(b) Government find the chapter which predicated on Smt. Indira Gandhi's sudden death totally abhorrent. Indeed it raises many questions which are being examined.

(c) and (d). Our Consul General in San Francisco received from Prof. Hardgrave a part of the draft manuscript in September 1983. A part of the final manuscript was received by our Embassy in Washington from Prof. Hardgrave by post in the first week of March, 1984. The remaining portion followed after about a week. A copy of the manuscript was sent by the Embassy routinely to the Ministry on March 12, 1984.

Unfortunately, the manuscript was not studied thoroughly at the time. We are looking into the lapses that have occurred in this regard. Meanwhile we are also taking steps to prevent their occurrence in the future.

Also, in the light of subsequent events, the Government are examining the circumstances of the commissioning of this study and its implications.

### Shortage of Gas Cylinders

\*71 SHRI NAVIN RAVANI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of industrial units in public and private sectors manufactured by them annually ;

(b) whether there is still shortage of gas cylinders and there is a long queue for getting gas connection ; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to increase the production of gas cylinders to meet the demand ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS, INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) In the organised sector there are 33 units manufacturing LPG cylinders and their production during 1983 has been 19.45 lakhs and during 1984 (January to November) 31.71 lakhs.

(b) The Department of Petroleum have reported that there is no shortage of gas cylinders in the country. Connections are released as per the enrolment programme chalked out on the basis of LPG production and availability of bottling capacity in the country.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translations]

### Increase in Freedom Fighter's Pension

\*72. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All India Freedom Fighters Organisation and certain ex-Members of Parliament have long been demanding that the amount of monthly pension of the freedom fighters and the widows of freedom fighters be raised from rupees three hundred and two hundred respectively to rupees five hundred