

Allopathic dispensaries in Delhi during 1971-72. The new dispensaries will start functioning as soon as suitable accommodation and staff is available.

**Damage to Property of Passengers in Indian Plane Hijacked to Pakistan**

6. SHRI A. N. CHAWLA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Indian Airlines plane was hijacked to Pakistan by certain pro-Pakistan elements ;

(b) whether the said plane was later on blown up there ;

(c) the extent of damage to plane and the property of passengers due to this mishap; and

(d) the specific measures adopted by Government for the safety of Indian planes in passage and the steps taken to get compensation for the plane and the belongings of the passengers ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Approximately Rupees one crore and twelve lakhs according to the value known so far.

(d) The overflight of Indian planes over Pakistan territory has been stopped. Stringent security measures have also been enforced to prevent hijacking of Indian planes.

The Government of India are continuing to press the Government of Pakistan to pay compensation for the plane and its contents.

**Supply of arms to South Africa**

7. SHRI A. N. CHAWLA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the U.K. Government have taken a firm decision for arms supply to South Africa ; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take in case U.K. Government does not reconsider their stand in this case although they had given an assurance in the last Commonwealth countries meet that they would reconsider their stand ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. The British Government have taken a decision to sell some arms to South Africa.

(b) At the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference held in Singapore in January 1971, the British Prime Minister had said that he would convey to his Cabinet the views expressed at the Conference on the proposed supply of arms to South Africa. A Study Group consisting of 8 nations, including India, was set up to go into "the factors affecting the security of maritime trade routes in the South Atlantic and Indian Oceans". India accepted membership of the Study Group on the understanding that the Study Group would consider the proposed sale of arms to South Africa and its impact on the Commonwealth as a whole. It was our hope that circumstances would not arise which would make the work of the Study Group infructuous. We made it clear that should circumstances change or new considerations arise, to make the Study Group infructuous, we would have to reconsider our attitude. In our view, Britain's announcement of the decision to sell arms to South Africa has rendered the Study Group infructuous and we have, therefore, withdrawn from it.

2. To concert further action we are in touch with other countries of the Commonwealth, especially of Africa, Asia and the Caribbean.

**Development of Ring Towns around Delhi**

8. SHRI TEJA SINGH SWATANTRA: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to develop