

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

ring towns around Delhi to check migration to the capital ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Master Plan of Delhi requires that alongwith the development of Delhi there should be a *synchronous development* of ring towns around Delhi, namely Ghaziabad, Faridabad, Ballabgarh, Gurgaon, Bahadurgarh, Loni and Narela.

Restrictions Imposed on Movement of Indians and Foreigners by Bhutan

9. **SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO** . Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government of India has been invited to the decision of the Bhutan Government to impose stricter restrictions on the movement of Indians and foreigners in Bhutan ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government of India in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Government of Bhutan have not taken any decision to impose stricter restrictions on the movement of Indians and foreigners in Bhutan. They have only decided to check more carefully the identity of non-Bhutanese personnel on entering Bhutan under existing arrangements.

Soviet Naval Build-up in Indian Ocean

10. **SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO** : Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a large scale Soviet Naval build-up in the Indian Ocean ;

(b) whether the attention of Government has been invited in this regard to a white Paper brought out by the British Government ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The Government of India have seen various reports on this but have no positive evidence of such a large scale build-up.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government has already subscribed whole-heartedly to the Lusaka declaration that the Indian Ocean area should remain a zone of peace and free from great power domination and great power rivalries. Since the majority of the littoral states were present at Lusaka, and subscribed to this view, the Government of India hopes that outside powers will take due note of the view of the littoral states. Government have requested Britain, the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. to pay due heed to the unanimous conclusion arrived at the Lusaka Conference on this matter.

Ex-gratia Grants to Indians for Properties Seized by Pakistan

11. **SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO** : Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are proposals for ex-gratia grants to those Indians whose properties have been seized by Pakistan during the 1965 conflict ; and

(b) if so, the details of such ex-gratia payments and the total amount involved ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The Government of India have decided that *ad hoc* interim relief, in the form of ex-gratia grants from the Consolidated Fund of India, at the rate of 25 per cent of the value of the verified claims restricted to a maximum of Rs. 25 lakhs in each case, may be made to all such Indian nationals and Indian companies, against a bond to be executed by the recipients. It has also been decided that where 25% of the value of the verified claim exceed the aforesaid limit, cases will be considered on merit. Such payments will be