

Investigation in the Death of Indian Soldiers in Gaza

*1043. **Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:**
Shri Sequeira:
Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta:
Shri George Fernandes:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri J. H. Patel:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have investigated into the real circumstances under which our Officers and soldiers were killed in the Gaza area,

(b) whether it is a fact that Captain Vijay Sachar, a victim in this area was killed while evacuating, when his jeep struck a mine, and

(c) if so, whether it was UAR or Israel mine and the number of persons who were killed along with Captain Sachar?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Surendra Pal Singh): (a) Investigation is in progress

(b) and (c) Two Indian other ranks were killed along with Captain Sachar. The investigation into this and other incidents has as yet not been finalised.

Indo-Pak Talks

*1044. **Shri Atam Das:**
Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Rabi Ray:
Shri Virendrakumar Shah:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri Raghuvir Singh Shastri:
Shri Shiv Kumar Shastri:
Shri Y. S. Kushwah:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state

(a) whether the reply of the Pak Foreign Minister about the proposal of comprehensive talks on all outstanding issues including Kashmir has

been received, and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action Government propose to take in this regard?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes Sir.

(a) A copy of Pak Foreign Minister's reply to my letter of 6th May, 1967, is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT-969/67]. The Government are giving careful consideration to this letter. On the question of arms reduction, our attitude has been very clearly explained to the Government of Pakistan in my letter of 6th May, 1967. As for the proposal to have talks on the resumption of civil air flights and telecommunication facilities between the two countries we had suggested to the Government of Pakistan that the scope of the talks should be widened so as to include other closely related matters as well. Pakistan Foreign Minister's letter does not contain any definite reply to our suggestion. However, diplomatic efforts continue.

Rehabilitation Centres for Disabled Ex-Servicemen

*1045. **Shri George Fernandes:**
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri J. H. Patel:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state

(a) how many rehabilitation centres are there in the country for ex-Servicemen who were injured or disabled during the war;

(b) how many of these are looked after by the Red Cross Society;

(c) what is the training given to the disabled soldiers, and

(d) what pension and/or allowances are available for these ex-Servicemen?

The Minister in the Ministry of Defence (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) to (c) There are two Army Medical Rehabilitation Units—one at Kirkee (Poona) and the other at Lucknow—