

thening her defences across the West Punjab Border adjoining the Fazilka area;

(b) if so, whether Government have informed the friendly countries about this violation of the Tashkent Declaration by Pakistan; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this matter?

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

(b) Pakistan's military build up, which is evidently directed against India, is not in accord with the Tashkent Declaration. Pakistan's repeated violations of the Tashkent Declaration have been brought to the notice of all friendly countries and our point of view in this regard has been generally appreciated.

(c) Government have taken adequate steps to protect our security and territorial integrity.

Kathmandu-Kodari Road

***1196. Shri Virendrakumar Shah:** Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 736 on the 26th June, 1967 regarding the closure of the Kathmandu-Kodari road by the Nepal Government and state:

(a) whether Government have since made a request to the Nepal Government to reconsider its said decision to close down the road;

(b) if so, with what response; and

(c) the effect of the closure of the road on the Indian trade with Nepal?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) The Kathmandu-Kodari road has not been closed to traffic. Under the present regulations of His Majesty's Government of Nepal all foreigners including Indians are required to obtain a special permit if they wish to proceed beyond Barabise a point approximately 80 kilometres from Kathmandu. A request has been made to His Majesty's

Government of Nepal to reconsider their decision under which entry of Indian nationals into restricted areas in Nepal is governed by the issue of special permits. It has been brought to the notice of His Majesty's Government of Nepal that throughout India Nepalese nationals have been granted special statutory exemption to permit them freedom of entry and movement in the restricted and protected areas in India.

(b) The matter is under consideration of His Majesty's Government of Nepal.

(c) As the road connects Kathmandu to the Nepal Tibet border the restrictions placed on entry into the last length of 25 kilometres of it, has no connection with India's trade with Nepal. It is to be noted that the restriction in any case is on the movement of persons and not on commodities.

Commercial Broadcasting

***1197. Shri D. C. Sharma:**

Shri K. P. Singh Deo:
Shri Ram Kishan Gupta:

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether All-India Newspaper Publishers' Convention held in New Delhi on the 1st and 2nd July, 1967 has urged the Government to abandon the decision on commercial advertising on All India Radio for the time being;

(b) whether the convention has asked the Government to call representatives of the newspapers for a discussion before taking a decision on such matters in future and evolve ways of safeguarding the interest of the Press; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government of India thereto and the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri K. K. Shah): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(e) Government had taken all the factors into consideration before taking a final decision on commercial broadcasting over All India Radio. It will be started as a pilot project with effect from 15th August, 1967. The resolution of the Convention requested Government to consult them in future. For this the representatives of the Convention are meeting Minister of Information and Broadcasting on 22nd July 1967.

Independence of Indian Ocean Islands

*1196. Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:
Shri George Fernandes:
Shri S. M. Joshi:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made by the Indian Ocean Islands like Mauritius etc. in achieving complete Independence; and

(b) the help given by India or proposed to be given by India in this regard?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Surendra Pal Singh): (a) General Elections in Mauritius are now scheduled to take place on the 7th August, 1967 and Mauritius will move to full independence 6 months thereafter.

The other non-self governing islands in the Indian Ocean are the Seychelles group (British and Reunion (French)). In neither of these cases has any date been fixed for the attainment of self-government or independence.

(b) The Government of India has always supported the introduction of majority rule in Mauritius and all other colonial territories as enjoined by United Nations Resolution No. 1514 (XV) of 14 December, 1960. India will continue to press for complete independence in all colonial territories, in the United Nations and in the Committee of 24 which deals speci-

fically with movement of colonial territories to independence. We shall also continue to lend support to these issues in all other world forums.

राष्ट्रीय सेना का बल का प्रशिक्षण

*1199. श्री हुकूम चांद कदमाव
श्री जकननाथ राव जोशी
श्री रघुवीर सिंह शारदा:
श्री रामचतार शर्मा:
श्री शिवकुमार शारदा:
श्री जर्जुन सिंह मदीरिया:
श्री प्रकाशवीर शारदा:
श्री राजगोपाल शालवाले:

क्या रक्षा मंत्री 29 मई 1967 के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 139 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या राष्ट्रीय छात्र सेना बल का प्रशिक्षण स्वच्छिक बनाने के बारे में शिक्षा आयोग तथा कोठारी समिति द्वारा की गई सिफारिशों पर कोई कार्यवाही की गई है;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उसका मोटा ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) यदि नहीं तो इस मामले में और कितना समय लगने की संभावना है और

(घ) देश में प्रति वर्ष कितने व्यक्तियों को प्रशिक्षण मिलेगा ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री (श्री स्वर्ण सिंह) : (क) से (ग) कोठारी समिति में, जो ऐसा सुझाव देने के लिए स्थापित की गई थी कि रक्षा मंत्रालय की राष्ट्रीय सेना के संबंध में सिफारिश करने कार्यान्वित की जाए सुझाव दिया है कि राष्ट्रीय सेना बल का कार्यक्रम आवश्यक एन० सी० सी० के विकल्प के तौर पर हीना चाहिए अर्थात् छात्र दोनों में से एक को चुनने में स्वतन्त्र हों। सरकार ने इस सिफारिश को स्वीकार कर लिया है।