

Kingdom to combat, racial discrimination in one form or another through official as well as non-official agencies. Important men in public life and leading newspapers in that country are themselves exercised about this question. Government of India do not think that it is necessary to agitate this matter at a meeting of the Afro-Asian countries.

Soviet Delegate's speech in Islamic International Conference

*1025. SHRI KAMESHWAR SINGH:
SHRI A. SREEDHARAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the broadcast from Radio Pakistan on the 18th February, 1968 to the effect that the Soviet delegate participating in the Second Session of the Islamic International Conference made a strong plea for the "Liberation of Kashmir";

(b) if so, whether Government have taken up the matter with the Government of U.S.S.R.; and

(c) if so, their reaction in this regard?

THE DEPUTY-MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH):
(a) to (c). There was no such broadcast by Radio Pakistan. Hon. Members have probably in mind the Pakistani press reports attributing to the Soviet delegate certain statements allegedly made by him at a press conference in Dacca on February 20. The Soviet Embassy from whom clarifications were sought, have stated that the report published in the Pakistani press was incorrect and that the Soviet delegate did not make any plea for the liberation of Kashmir.

Kidnapping of Citizens by Naga Hostiles

*1026. SHRI RANJIT SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether kidnapping of peaceful citizens by Naga Hostiles has shown marked increase in the past few months; and

(b) if so, the number of cases of kidnapping in Nagaland from October last?

THE DEPUTY-MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH):

(a) and (b). A statement showing the number of persons reported to have been kidnapped by Naga Hostiles in Nagaland from 1st October, 1967 to 31st January, 1968 and from June, 1967 to September, 1967 is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-728/68].

Freedom Fighters executed by Rhodesian Government

*1027. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA:
SHRI SHRI GOPAL SABOO:
SHRI R. S. VIDYARTHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there freedom fighters were executed by the Rhodesian Government recently; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take up this issue before the U.N.O.?

THE DEPUTY-MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir. The Prime Minister gave this information in a statement made in the House on the 6th March, 1968.

(b) The Security Council is at present considering the situation arising out of the execution of the three freedom fighters in Rhodesia. Speaking