

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) The Administrative Reforms Commission had received suggestions from various officials and non-officials on this subject. The Commission have only recently submitted their final report to Government on the Machinery for Planning. A summary of the recommendations made in the Report is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-520/68] Examination of Report is being undertaken.

#### RACIAL CLASHES IN LONDON

\*745. SHRI D. N. PATODIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether racial clashes were reported recently in London in which the Indians were involved;

(b) if so, the cause for these incidents;

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter with the Government of U.K. ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) to (c) No racial clash involving Indians in London or in other parts of U.K. has come to Government's notice recently.

#### DEPUTATION OF GUJJAR TRIBES

\*746. SHRI PREM CHAND VERMA :

SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA :  
SHRI RAMACHANDRA J. AMIN :  
SHRI P. N. SOLANKI :  
SHRI R. K. AMIN :  
SHRI KIKAR SINGH :  
SHRI D. R. PARMAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a deputation had met her at Delhi on the 16th February, 1968 in connection with the grievances of the Gujjar Tribes;

(b) if so, the names and status of the persons forming the deputation; and

(c) the details of the discussion and the outcome hereof ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) Swami Rama Nand Bharti, President, Gujjar Tribals Welfare Committee and Sarvashri Hardit Sharma, Bakshi Jagdev Singh and M. N. Sharma met the Prime Minister on the 16th February 1968 and invited her to preside over the 5th All India Gujjar Tribals Conference to be held at Pathankot. The Prime Minister thanked Sri Bharti and his colleagues for their invitation but expressed her inability to preside over the Gujjar Tribals Conference on account of her extremely heavy schedule (both internal and foreign) during the coming months.

#### MATCHING GRANTS TO STATES FOR PLAN PROJECT

\*747. SHRI D. N. PATODIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the present system of giving matching grants to the States for plan projects worked against the interest of the under-developed States;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Planning Commission is considering to rationalise the system of giving grants to the States; and

(c) if so when a decision in this regard will be taken ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) There is nothing inherent in the system of matching grants which should adversely affect the interests of under-developed States.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir; in the reformulated Fourth Five Year Plan which will commence on 1st April 1969.

**COST OF ESTABLISHMENT OF EQUATORIAL ROCKET LAUNCHING STATION, THUMBA**

4498. SHRI BABURAO PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total cost of establishing the Equatorial Rocket Launching Station at Thumba and India's share of the cost;

(b) the number of rockets that have been produced so far at Thumba and the number it is capable of producing annually; and

(c) the number of Engineers working at Thumba, nationalitywise, and their qualifications ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) The Equatorial Rocket Launching Station in Thumba has been established in co-operation with the USA, USSR and France, who have given equipment exceeding Rupees one crore in value. The total amount spent by the Government of India so far on the getting up of the Station and its operation is of the order of Rupees two crores.

(b) About a dozen rockets have been indigenously produced so far at the Space Science & Technology Centre on Veli Hill near Thumba. The establishment is for development work and there is no definitive production capacity.

(c) There are 59 engineers, all Indian nationals, working at present at the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station and the Space Science & Technology Centre. 31 hold post-graduate degrees and the remaining 28 are engineering graduates.

**FOREIGN TRIPS BY THE TOP ENGINEERS OF THUMBA ROCKET LAUNCHING STATION**

4499. SHRI BABURAO PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign trips made by 10 top engineers of Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station since its inception and the cost in foreign exchange and air-fare;

(b) whether Engineers have been invited to Thumba, if so, their number and their cost to Government; and

(c) whether the expense at Thumba justifies the pursuit of probing the outer space for peaceful purposes ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) There are only five top engineers at Thumba. These senior engineers have made fifteen trips abroad during the past five years. The expenditure incurred in foreign exchange and on air fare is approximately Rs. 17,550 and Rs. 79,220 respectively.

(b) TERLS has been established through the collaborative efforts of India, USA, USSR and France. Engineers visit Thumba on behalf of these countries and for collaborative programme. Total expenditure related to their visits during the part five years, incurred in rupees is approximately Rs. 6.00 lakhs.

(c) Yes, Sir.

**CONFIRMATION OF MECHANICS IN A.I.R.**

4500. SHRI ABDUL GHANI DAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Mechanics in each zone of All India Radio who have not been confirmed so far;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time expected to be taken to confirm them ?