

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Further steps can only be considered after the examination of the report submitted by the Intelligence Bureau has been completed.

**Major Ports**

\*268. SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the "Times of India" dated the 16th December, 1967 that agents of Peking Communists in India are conspiring to subvert major ports in India as a part of their nation-wide plan for subversion;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some of the underground leaders who master-minded the Naxalbari movement are systematically assisting the plan of subversion;

(c) whether Government have made any enquiries into the matter;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). While the Government have no specified information in regard to attempts to subvert major ports, appropriate security arrangements are in force to ensure the safety of ports.

**Conference on Shipping and Ship-Building**

\*269. SHRI S. S. KOTHARI:  
SHRI D. C. SHARMA:

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Conference on Shipping, Ship-build-

ing and ports was held recently to consider development thereof?

(b) if so, the broad decisions of the Conference;

(c) the rupee and foreign exchange requirements for effecting projected development; and

(d) the steps taken to provide funds for such expansion?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (DR. V. K. R. V. RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The Conference was held from 16th to 18th December, 1967.

(b) A statement giving the broad decisions of the Conference is placed on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-204/68.]

(c) and (d). The recommendations of the National Conference are under examination of the Government. The financial implications of the recommendations can be assessed only in the light of the specific programmes to be formulated for the development of shipping, shipbuilding and ports in the coming years.

**Theft of Idol**

1651. SHRI C. K. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the theft of a very old idol of Raghunathji as reported in 'Jugantar' (Calcutta) dated the 3rd January, 1968 from Paskura in Midnapur;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to verify the report that the idol made of 'ashtadhatu' (eight metals) contained gold weighing 1 md. 20 seers; and

(c) if the report is correct, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI SHER SINGH):

(a) to (c): Government have no information in the matter. Since the