

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : (a) The Government of India have offered to release a Pakistani national who might have completed his term of imprisonment in India in exchange for Trilok Chandra, but the Government of Pakistan have not accepted this offer and are demanding the release of Pakistani nationals who are still undergoing imprisonment in India.

The Government have taken up this matter with the Pakistan High Commission in India and also instructed the Indian High Commission in Islamabad to seek such legal remedies as might be available in Pakistan to secure the release of Shri Trilok Chandra.

(b) Government of India have so far had no assurance from the Government of Pakistan that Trilok Chandra will be released.

MAPS ON KACHCHATIVU ISLAND PUBLISHED BY SURVEY GENERAL OF CEYLON

*71. SHRI KAMESHWAR SINGH :
SHRI GHAYOOR ALI KHAN :
SHRI KEDAR PASWAN :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian High Commissioner in Colombo has sent copies of the maps published by the Surveyor General of Ceylon showing Kachchativu as Ceylon territory;

(b) if so, whether Government have studied the maps; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The question of Kachchativu is to be discussed this month between India and Ceylon and all relevant data including the maps will be taken into consideration.

TEEN MURTI HOUSE

*72. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cabinet have taken a final decision to make Teen Murti House the permanent residence of India's Prime Minister;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the decision to make this House a Nehru Memorial was also taken by Government/Cabinet in 1964;

(c) whether some members of Parliament have protested against this decision in their communications to the Prime Minister;

(d) if so, their main arguments in support of their plea for reconsideration of this decision; and

(e) the considered response of the Government to this decision ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a), (b) and (c). Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri did not wish to use the Teen Murti House for his residence as Prime Minister. On June 21, 1964 the Cabinet decided that a small committee be appointed by the Prime Minister to examine, in consultation with the National Committee which was then being proposed to be set up to coordinate action to commemorate the memory of the late Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, the uses to which the property at Teen Murti House should be put. Accordingly, in September 1964, the Cabinet, among other things, decided that the Teen Murti House might be used primarily for a museum, with a library, dedicated to the memory of the late Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.

Recently, the Cabinet, in considering the question of a permanent residence for the Prime Minister of India, had the choice of two alternatives :

(1) continuing the allotment of Teen Murti House for the Nehru Museum and Library, and constructing an entirely new residential complex for the Prime Minister; or (2) re-converting the Teen Murti House complex into the residence of the Prime Minister of India and constructing entirely new buildings well suited for the Nehru Museum and Library at a suitable place.

Preferring the second alternative, the Cabinet decided that the Teen Murti House Complex should be re-allotted as the permanent residence of the Prime Minister and that a new set of buildings should be built for the Nehru Museum and Library, well suited for the purpose and well designed to commemorate the memory of Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.

(c) and (d). Presumably, the Hon. Member is referring to his own letters to the Prime Minister and that of his colleague, Shri Fernandes, on the subject. The contents of these letters are, no doubt, known to him. The Prime Minister has already replied to his first communication repudiating certain false insinuations and allegations made in it. The substance of the correspondence has already appeared in the Press.

ASSISTANCE FOR EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS OF IRAN AND TURKEY

*73. SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assistance was rendered to the recent earthquake victims of Iran and Turkey;

(b) if so, the details of help extended; and

(c) the total amount involved ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A special Indian Air Force Plane airlifted to Iran 2,000 woollen blankets, 2,000 pullovers, 25 tents and 66 packages of medicines.

(c) The total amount involved is Rs. 1,78,979.60.

RELEASE OF DR. R. S. VASUDEVA ARRESTED IN CUBA

*74. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI :

SHRI J. M. BISWAS :
DR. RANEN SEN :
SHRI SRINIBAS MISRA :
SHRI D. N. DEB :
SHRI SITARAM KESRI :
SHRI RAM SEWAK YADAV :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have been able to secure release of Dr. R. S. Vasudeva, an Indian Expert with the Food and Agriculture Organisation who was arrested in Cuba; and

(b) if not, what is the present position in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir. As a result of the Government's intervention, Dr. R. S. Vasudeva was released on October 1, 1968, by the Cuban authorities on condition that he would remain in Cuba until certain investigations in respect of the charges against him were complete.

(b) Does not arise.

RETURN OF NAGAS FROM CHINA

*75. SHRI SHARDA NAND :
SHRI KARTIK ORAON :
SHRI DEVEN SEN :
SHRI J. N. HAZARIKA :
SHRI RAM CHANDRA VEERAPPA :
SHRI VALMIKI CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that about 1,000 Nagas are on way back from China after training;

(b) if so, the steps which Government have taken to check their entry into India;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Military authorities are not free to patrol anywhere near the borders so as to check their entry on account of the cease-fire agreement; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to give a free hand to military authorities to capture all these rebel Nagas ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). Government have information about the traffic of the Underground Nagas between China and India and are taking all possible steps to prevent their re-entry