

look into the NEFA reverses have not been made known to the House; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). The main conclusions of the Enquiry into the conduct of military operations in NEFA were summarised in the Defence Minister's statement in the Lok Sabha on 2nd September, 1963.

The reasons for not placing the entire document before the House were explained in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Statement and also by me during the half-hour discussion on the 27th March, 1967.

स्वर्गीय प्रधान मंत्री के पत्र का श्रीलंका में प्रकाशित किया जाना

359. श्री सेनियान : क्या बंदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात का पता है कि श्रीलंका के एक भूतपूर्व प्रधान मंत्री ने भारत के स्वर्गीय प्रधान मंत्री श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री द्वारा 22 नवम्बर, 1964 को श्रीलंका की सरकार को लिखे गये कथित पत्र को प्रकाशित किया है ; और

(ख) क्या सरकार उपरोक्त पत्र की एक प्रति सभा-पटल पर रखेगी ?

बंदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री मु० क० चागला) : (क) जी हाँ ।

(ख) श्रीलंका की प्रधान मंत्री का 9 जनवरी 1965 का पत्र और प्रधान मंत्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री के 22 नवम्बर 1964 और 20 फरवरी 1965 के पत्र सभा पटल पर रख दिए गए हैं । [पुस्तकालय में रखा गया बंदिखे संख्या एल० टी० 193/67]

#### Returns of Assets by Central Ministers

360. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the members of the Union Cabinet have submitted the returns of their assets;

(b) if not, the names of those who have not submitted the returns; and

(c) when they are likely to do so?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) to (c). Some members of the Cabinet have sent their returns and the rest are expected to do so shortly.

#### Fire in Nagaland Secretariat

361. Shri S. Supakar:

Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large portion of Nagaland Secretariat was destroyed by fire on the 10th February, 1967;

(b) if so, whether it was an act of sabotage or accident; and

(c) the action, if any, taken in this matter?

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

(b) and (c). The State Government of Nagaland, within whose jurisdiction the matter rests, have instituted an inquiry to investigate the cause of fire. The inquiry has not yet been completed.

#### Purchase of Tyres by Defence Ministry

362. Shri Madhu Limaye:

Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the practice to maintain log books for the Army Vehicles in order to show the mileage run by the tyres fitted on the army vehicles;

(b) whether such log books were maintained in the case of tyres purchased from the stock imported through the S.T.C. (mentioned in the 64th Report of the Public Accounts Committee 3rd Lok Sabha);

(c) whether the Army staff had made any entry in their condemnation report as to whether these tyres were unserviceable and irreparable;

(d) whether it is a fact that most of these tyres became unserviceable after a run of 300 to 400 miles;

(e) whether fictitious savings were shown by manipulating figures in the Rate Contract; and

(f) what was the rate shown in the rate contract inclusive of flap and tube and the actual price paid exclusive of flap and tube?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). 138 out of 5,904 Track Hard Road tyres have been reported to have failed prematurely after completing mileage varying from 3,500 to 20,500 KMs. 95 out of 6,782 Standard Tread pattern tyres have been reported to have failed prematurely after completing mileage varying from 2,200 KMs to 26,050 KMs.

(e) No such manipulation has come to the knowledge of the Defence Ministry.

(f) As per rate contract for Standard Tread tyres with imported types stockists, the rate of 8.25 x 20-12 ply rating tyre inclusive of flap and tube was Rs. 349 and that of 7.50 x 20-10 ply rating tyre with flap and tube was Rs. 285. The types were accordingly supplied with flaps and tubes. No separate price for the tyre alone was indicated in the rate contract. The A/T placed by DGS&D for 8.25 x 20-12 ply rating Track Hard Road/Universal Track Grip pattern was for the tyre only without tube or flap and the A/T rate was Rs. 360 per tyre.

#### **Purchase of Tyres by Defence Ministry**

**363. Shri Madhu Limaye:  
Shri Yashpal Singh:  
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Officer Commanding Central Ordnance

68 (A) LSD-3.

Depot, Kandivili (now Malad) who was responsible for purchasing and accepting the tyres from the stock mentioned in the 64th Report of the Public Accounts Committee (3rd Lok Sabha) was recently allowed to obtain his release from Military Service;

(b) whether it is also a fact that if any proceedings are to be taken against any officer who has obtained his release from the Military Service, these have to be taken within six months from the date of his release;

(c) whether any action has been taken against the then Officer Commanding, Kandivili Depot in the matter of these tyre purchases so far; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Army Act, 1950, no trial by court martial of any person subject to this Act for any offence under that Act can commence after the expiration of a period of 3 years from the date of such offence and no person can be tried for an offence unless his trial commences within 6 months after he had ceased to be subject to this Act.

(c) and (d). Since he cannot be tried by court martial due to lapse of time since the transaction took place. The only other action possible is to withhold his pension wholly or partially under Regulation 3 of the Pension Regulations for the Army, Part I, 1961, and this is being processed.

#### **Purchase of Tyres by Defence Ministry**

**364. Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:  
Shri Madhu Limaye:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in purchasing and accepting the tyres imported through the S.T.C. (mentioned in the 64th Report of the Public Accounts Committee—3rd Lok Sabha) misleading reports were submitted to