

The remaining 34 recommendations are being processed in consultation with the concerned Union Ministries, State Governments, Press Organisations and other interests;

(b) efforts are made to see that their condition does not deteriorate;

(c) In order to afford relief to newspapers, consequent upon the increase in the cost of imported newsprint owing to devaluation, the following steps have already been taken:

- (1) The Import Duty and the Regulatory Duty have been abolished.
- (2) From August 1, 1966, a surcharge of 10 per cent on advertisements, released by Government, has been accepted.
- (3) As a measure of liberalisation of import of newsprint and additional quantity of 15,257 metric tonnes from Canada has been arranged.

Nuclear Scientists' Meet

*73. Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri G. C. Nalk:
Shri K. P. Singh Deo:
Shri A. Dipa:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether India was represented in the recent Nuclear Scientists' meet at Geneva;

(b) if so, India's opinion on the question of proliferation of nuclear weapons and their potential hazard; and

(c) whether the aspect of the security of such countries with neighbours having nuclear weapons has been considered?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) At the invitation of the U.N. Secretary General Dr. Sarabhai (in his individual capacity) participated in a meeting of a Panel of Consultant Experts at Geneva to

prepare a report on the impact and implications of all aspects of nuclear weapons. All the 12 experts were invited in their individual capacity.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Concentration of Chinese Troops on Bhutan-Tibet Border

*74. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chinese troops are heavily concentrated on the Bhutan-Tibet border.

(b) whether it is also a fact that they have built a road from Tibet to Bhutan border;

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to fear of the Chinese, the Tibetans have been entering India; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Chinese troops are entrenched in strength along the Bhutan-Tibet border as in other sectors. However, no new concentrations have been noticed.

(b) Over the last three years, the Chinese authorities are known to have built and improved some roads leading to the Bhutan border.

(c) Yes, Sir. Since the 1st of January 1967, 144 Tibetan refugees escaping from Chinese persecution in Tibet, have entered India.

(d) The Government are taking all necessary steps.

Space Research

*75. Shri C. C. Desai:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether any programme for space research in the country has been chalked out;