

(d) if so, to what agency ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) to (d). The defence owned land in District Basti comprises the Kalyanpur Camping Ground measuring approximately 34.709 acres. The land is in the occupation of agriculturists to whom it has been decided to lease out the same by execution of requisite lease deed.

STATEMENT MADE BY GENERAL KUMARAMANGALAM RE: ADOPTION OF ARMY LIFE AS A PROFESSION

***785. SHRI S.K. TAPURIAH:
SHRI N. K. SOMANI:**

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen the statement made recently by General Kumaramangalam to the effect that 'the Army is the least popular profession—very few people like to join it as a career unless most of the other avenues are closed. We get very few officers (from those of higher grade, not in birth but in quality); and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) Government have seen a newspaper report more or less to this effect.

(b) Considering the large intake of officers, both regular and short term, for the Army, over the past few years, the response from persons wishing to join the Army is quite good, though there is room for improvement, particularly in the intake of Short Service Commissioned Officers in the Technical Branches. The shortfalls in the last few years can, amongst other factors, be ascribed to the inadequate response from the State Governments for making available civilian officers under the Compulsory Service Liability Schemes and the natural desire of Technical Graduates to go in for more permanent careers than Short Service Commission in the Army. The special measures which Government have taken, including the establishment of Sainik Schools for preparation of boys for the National Defence Academy, and the Special Entry through the NCC, are expected to make up some of the shortfalls.

DELAY IN THE HANDLING OF FOREIGN TRADE BY STATE TRADING CORPORATION

***786. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD:** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that undue delay takes place in the onward transmission of goods exported/imported through the State Trading Corporation ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the transactions during the years 1967-68 and 1968-69 in whose cases undue delay in the movement of goods occurred and the loss sustained by way of interest on the amount and by way of depreciation to the stock on this account; and

(d) whether Government propose to streamline the outdated procedures and evolve new techniques to avoid undue delay in movement ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI RAM SEWAK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

INDO-AFGHAN TRADE AGREEMENT

***787. SHRI R. BARUA:
SHRI N. R. LASKAR:
SHRI DHANDAPANI:**

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and Afghanistan signed a trade agreement for the year 1969-70;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) whether, under this agreement India's exports to and import from that country will be increased compared to the last agreement ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI RAM SEWAK): (a) to (c). No New Trade Agreement, as such, with Afghanistan has been signed for 1969-70. The Trade Arrangement signed in July, 1968, which expired on 31st July, 1969, has been extended for a further period of one year with effect from August 1, 1969. A statement showing the main features of the Trade Arrangement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement**Main features of Indo-Afghan Trade Arrangement.**

- (i) Imports into India of asafoetida, cumin seeds and medicinal herbs of Afghanistan origin will be allowed freely;
- (ii) Imports of Afghan dry and fresh fruits into India will be permitted subject to quantitative ceilings;
- (iii) Not less than 15% of the counter-exports by the importers in India, in payment for items covered by (i) and (ii) above will be in the form of non-traditional goods *i.e.* items other than textiles, tea, spices and coir products, and in accordance with the E.P. Procedures of the Reserve Bank of India;
- (iv) Payment for dry and fresh fruits, asafoetida, cumin seeds and herbs is made by importers in India by exporting to Afghanistan Indian goods specified in the Trade Arrangements, of an equivalent value; and
- (v) Imports of wool and cotton from Afghanistan, and exports from India of items such as machinery, machine tools, automobiles, iron and steel construction material etc. specified in the Trade Arrangement, will be allowed against payments in free foreign exchange.

मृत्युजन्म दिवसों पर जाने के लिये राज्य सरकारों के प्रतिनिधियों की विदेश यात्रा सम्बन्धी नियम

* 788. श्री ओम प्रकाश त्यागी : क्या बौद्धिक कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राज्य सरकार किसी देश के नेता की मृत्यु अथवा जन्म दिवस पर उसे श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करने के लिये उस देश में अपना प्रतिनिधि स्वतंत्र रूप से भेज सकती है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में क्या नियम बनाये गये हैं; और

(ग) यदि इस सम्बन्ध में अब तक कोई नियम नहीं बनाये गये हैं तो क्या सरकार

का विचार ऐसे नियम अब बनाने का है ताकि भावप्य में केन्द्र तथा राज्य राज्यों के बीच कोई नया विवाद उत्पन्न न हो जाये ?

बौद्धिक कार्य मंत्री (श्री बिनेश सिंह) :

(क) और (ख). जी नहीं। सभी राज्य सरकारों को औपचारिक रूप से यह सलाह दे दी गई है कि वे विदेश या भारत में इसके प्रतिनिधि की ओर से जो भी निमंत्रण प्राप्त करें, उसे स्वीकार करने के पूर्व उन्हें विदेश मंत्रालय का परामर्श लेना आवश्यक है। इसके अतिरिक्त, माननीय सदस्य इस बात से तो अवगत ही हैं कि विदेशी यात्राओं पर भारत के रिजर्व बैंक के नियम भी लागू होते हैं।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

PAKISTANI OCCUPATION OF POSTS IN KARGIL

*789. SHRI MAYAVAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are still three posts in Kargil area under Pakistani occupation, which were taken by them during 1965 conflict;

(b) if so, whether the U. N. Observers and a N. N. team had also given their verdict that these posts belong to India;

(c) if so, steps being taken to recover the said posts; and

(d) the reasons for delay in capturing them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) Pakistan is not in occupation of any post on our side of the Cease Fire Line in the Kargil sector.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

WORKING OF STATE TRADING CORPORATION

*790. SHRI S. C. SAMANTA: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any letter from a Member of Parliament regarding the working at the highest levels of the State Trading Corporation;