

(b) The matter is under consideration.

(c) and (d). A good many of the Ambassadors are chosen from Grades I to V of the Foreign Service. Each such appointment is made taking into account various factors such as the level of the post, the grade of the officer concerned, the broad requirements of the post, the officer's previous posting, his experience and his aptitude. For some appointments Government also consider distinguished persons from other services or from public life. In coming to a decision on such appointments, Government take into account the background and experience of the persons in view and their suitability for the particular assignment.

Citizenship to Indians in Burma and Transfer of their Assets

*386. SHRI A. SREEDHARAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Burma had given any assurance regarding the grant of citizenship right to Indians in Burma;

(b) if so, how far it has been fulfilled; and

(c) the steps taken by Government of India in negotiating the transfer of assets left by the refugees with the Burmese Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) The Government of Burma have indicated their intention to grant citizenship to those non-nationals including persons of Indian origin in Burma who qualify.

(b) The Government of Burma are understood to have appointed Screening Committees to scrutinise the applications submitted by non-nationals for the grant of citizenship.

(c) The question of compensation for the assets of Indian nationals who have returned from Burma is under the consideration of both the Governments.

Choice to Nagas in Burma for Homeland

*387. SHRI MAYAVAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nagaland Government have told the Union Government

that Nagas in Burma should not be debarred from choosing the country of their choice;

(b) whether the matter has been taken up with the Government of Burma; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government and the Government of Burma in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (c). The Government of Nagaland have from time to time made certain suggestions to the Government of India which are receiving attention.

Basic Disputes in the Way of Indo-Pak Relation

*388. SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:
SHRI BENI SHANKER
SHARMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that President Yahya Khan of Pakistan had made a statement saying that the relations with India could be improved if only the basic disputes between the two countries were solved; and

(b) if so, the details of basic disputes as pointed out by him?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b). President Yahya Khan of Pakistan, while talking to newsmen in Dacca on 31 December 1969, is reported to have made a statement to the effect that normal and lasting friendly relations between Pakistan and India could not be established unless what he called "basic disputes" between the two countries were solved. According to the report, the President did not specify the basic disputes in this statement.

Indraprastha Power Station, New Delhi

*389. SHRI CHINTAMANI
PANIGRAHI:
SHRI YASHPAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee appointed to enquire into Delhi's 'C' power station's fre-