

Defence Budget of Pakistan

*882. Shri Atam Das:
Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Srichand Goel:
Shri Yajna Devi Sharma:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan is spending more than 50 per cent of her revenues on Defence,

(b) if so, whether Government of India propose to increase their Defence Budget keeping in view the increase in the Pakistan Defence Budget; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri B. E. Bhagat):

(a) without a precise indication of the items included in the Defence budget of Pakistan it is not possible to work out an exact proportion but at the basis of estimates the position appears broadly to be correct.

(b) and (c). The Defence budget of Government of India is based on our own assessment of the needs

Issue of Pakhtoonistan

*883. Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri M. L. Sondhi:
Shri Nathu Ram Akirwar:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been urged to raise the issue of Pakhtoonistan in the United Nations;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government of India thereto; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Surendra Pal Singh): (a) to (c) Government of India are aware of the desire of certain individuals and groups that this issue may be taken up in inter-

national forums. Government do not however, propose to do so

Indian Hostel in Jerusalem destroyed by Israeli Forces

*885. Shri K. P. Singh Deo:
Shri Hukam Chand Kachwai:
Shri Ram Singh Ayarwal:
Shri Y. S. Kushwah:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian hostel in Jerusalem has been destroyed by the Israeli forces during the recent conflict in West Asia, and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government for the restoration of the hostel?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Surendra Pal Singh): (a) According to reports, the Indian Hospice in Jerusalem was severely damaged by Israeli shelling during the conflict in West Asia

(b) This matter will be considered after the situation normalises in West Asia

Farakka Barrage Project

*886. Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Ram Gopal Shalwale:
Shri Kameshwar Singh:
Shri Nitiraj Singh Chaudhary:
Shri G. C. Dixit:
Shri Vasudevan Nair.
Shri Hukam Chand Kachwai:
Shri Nihal Singh:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn towards the statement made by the Pakistani Foreign Minister that his country would take definite steps to restrain India from going ahead with the construction of the Farakka Barrage project; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

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

(b) Government have noted with regret the statement as reported in the newspapers. The execution of the Ferakka Barrage Project will proceed according to schedule.

Chanda Committee Report on A.I.R.

*887, **Shri P. C. Adichan:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finally examined the Chanda Committee report on the co-ordination in the functioning of the various Divisions under his Ministry, and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Report?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Shrimati Nandni Satpathy): (a) and (b). The Committee's Report on 'Co-ordination of the Media of Mass Communication' is still in the process of examination

Participation of an Indian National in Celebration of Israel's Victory

*888, **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:**
Shri Swell:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the Press Report that an Indian national, Shri Fubin Mehta of Bombay, had flown specially to Israel in order to conduct an Orchestra in celebration of Israel's recent victory;

(b) whether he is aware that this gesture was made at a time when Israel was defying U.N. advice regarding cease-fire; and

(c) whether any steps can be taken to prevent Indian nationals abroad acting so egregiously against the interests of the country's prestige and principles?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Surendra Pal Singh): (a) and (b). Mr. Zubin

Mehta, an Indian national from Bombay, who is presently Resident Conductor of the Los Angeles Symphony Orchestra, flew to Tel Aviv and gave concerts there following the ceasefire.

(c) Government does not propose to interfere in the private and personal decisions of this nature

Anti-Indian Demonstrations at Kathmandu Airport

*889, **Shri Kameshwar Singh:**
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chinese shouted anti-Indian slogans at Kathmandu airport on the 17th June, 1967;

(b) whether any protest has been lodged with the Nepal Government; and

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

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Surendra Pal Singh): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Detailed information on these points was furnished to the House on 28th June 1967 in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3618 which the hon'ble Member has not perhaps seen.

(c) His Majesty's Government of Nepal is understood to be as concerned, as would any other Government, at the repeated violations of established norms of diplomatic custom by the Chinese diplomatic and non-diplomatic personnel.

Training of Malaysians in Defence Department

*890, **Shri K. Barua:**
Shri Bedabrata Barua:
Shri N. K. Sanghi:
Shri Y. A. Prasad:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has given training facilities to Malaysia and other