

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The permission of the Government of Maharashtra was sought.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The purchase of the site and the construction of the building does not conflict without laws and the established diplomatic relations.

Indo-British Travel Facilities

*377. **SHRI RAM KISHAN GUPTA :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the entire issue of travel facilities between India and United Kingdom has been examined ; and

(b) if so, the result thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) If what the Honourable Member has in mind is the question of restrictions imposed by the British Government on the entry of Indians into Britain, the matter is receiving Government's attention.

Crash Landing of H.S. 748 Aircraft in Car Nicobar Islands

*378. **SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA :** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that on H.S. 748 aircraft piloted by a senior officer of the Air Staff crash-landed recently in Car Nicobar islands ;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the passengers were the wives of the senior official and a high official of his ministry ;

(c) if so, the names of the passengers and respective designations of the two officials ;

(d) whether Government have made any inquiry into this whole incident ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ; and the action taken against the concerned officials ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM) : (a) No such incident has occurred recently. However, an H.S., 748 aircraft of the Indian Air Force piloted

by a senior officer of the Air Force swung off the runway when it landed at Port Blair on 13th October 1969 and was damaged.

(b) and (c). The wife of the senior Air Force officer was the only lady passenger on board the aircraft. The other passengers were (i) Shri M. P. Cariappa, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Defence, and (ii) Sqn. Ldr. H. S. Gupta IAF.

(d) and (e). A court of Inquiry was constituted to investigate this accident. The Court of Inquiry attributed the loss of directional control during the landing run to a possible momentary mechanical defect in the nose wheel steering system. Subsequent examination of the steering mechanism by specialists did not reveal any positive evidence which could have led to its malfunctioning. The plane had earlier carried out normal take offs and landings at Kalai-kunda, Port Blair and Car Nicobar on its outward flight from New Delhi. There was no irregularity about any of the passengers travelling on the aircraft.

The question of taking action against any officials does not, therefore, arise.

Massive Military Installations on Indian Borders by Chinese

*379. **SHRI HEM BARUA :** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chinese have installed massive military manoeuvres on our frontiers ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) whether Government are fully prepared to meet the eventuality of an attack by external forces ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM) : (a) and (b). The House has been kept informed from time to time of the disposition of Chinese troops and the pattern of their military activities across our border. There has been no significant change in the position of late.

(c) Our defence preparedness takes into account the nature of threats which confront the country.

Interference in the Internal Affairs of India by Vietcong Defectors

*380. **SHRI UMANATH :**
SHRI P. GOPALAN :

**SHRI VISHWANATHA
MENON :**

SHRI K. M. ABRAHAM :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the reported Press Conference of the two Vietcong defectors in New Delhi held on 17th July, 1970 ;

(b) whether it is a clear violation of the assurance given by the South Vietnam Information Minister to the Indian Consulate-General in Saigon, that these defectors would not indulge in political activity in India during their stay ;

(c) if so, what action had been taken against these two defectors and those who arranged the press conference ; and

(c) if no action had been taken the reasons for the same thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Holding of the Press conference by the Vietcong defectors was a breach of the assurance given by the authorities of the South Vietnam Government that they would not take part in political activity while in India.

(c) and (d). Government placed certain restrictions on the movement of these persons.

**Agreement for Jute Goods concluded
with E.C.M. by India and Pakistan**

*381. **SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan has recently concluded an agreement for jute goods with European Common Market having more favourable terms than those between India and E.C.M. ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the extent to which Pakistan is likely to have an edge over India as a result thereof ;

(d) the reasons for Pakistan having secured more favourable terms than India ; and

(e) the reaction of Government thereto ?

**THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN
TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) :** (a) to (e). It is understood that the European Economic Commission has reached an agreement with Pakistan on the contents of an agreement concerning trade in jute goods.

The salient features of the agreement are understood to be as follows :

(1) The Community would apply in advance, as soon as the agreement comes into force, all the customs tariff reductions decided in the Kennedy Round Trade negotiations in respect of jute products.

(2) Pakistan on its part would limit its exports to the common market of jute fabrics of width exceeding 150 cm. at the level of 760 tonnes and of jute thread at the level of 2000 tonnes for the current year. A growth of 115 tonnes per year for the jute fabrics and 200 tonnes per year for jute thread will be allowed.

(3) The Community would not oppose the above ceiling to be surpassed in the event of supplementary requirements in the Community market.

(4) A joint cooperation committee would be set up to examine all aspects of jute and to seek solutions to the difficulties.

(5) The agreement will be valid till the 31st December, 1972.

Under the agreement signed between India and EEC in November, 1969 (for the period 1st January 1970 to 31st December 1972) in respect of jute trade, the EEC have agreed to observe the following principles :

(1) Progressive enlargement of access to the Community Market, for India.

(2) Global maintenance of the activity of the European Jute Industry at its present level.

Under the agreement India was to limit the exports of jute fabrics of a width more than 150 cm. at the level of 5500 tonnes for the year 1969. A growth rate of 250 tonnes per year has also been provided for. The Community has further agreed that it will not object to the quota being exceeded in