

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Government have seen reports appearing in a section of the press about Sri Lankan Prime Minister's interview to the Singapore Television on 22nd February.

(b) Government of India continues to believe that the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka can only be solved through a peaceful negotiated settlement acceptable to all concerned.

#### Representation of SCs/STs in the I.T.D.C.

143. SHRI (MOLANA) ASRARUL HAQ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no proper representation has been given to the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the grade of traffic supervisors, assistant traffic supervisors in Transport Division of the India Tourism Development Corporation;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the total number of reserved posts in the grades of traffic supervisor and assistant traffic supervisors which have been carried forward during the last three years;

(d) whether it is a fact that no promotion has been given to assistant traffic supervisors and counter clerks to the post of traffic supervisors and assistant traffic supervisors respectively even though they are due for promotion; and

(e) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The total number of reserved posts which have been carried for-

ward during the last three years are as follows:—

Traffic Supervisors : 3(S.C.)  
Assistant Traffic Supervisors: 1 (S.T.)

(d) and (e) As per ITDC Recruitment, Promotion and Seniority Rules, only one Assistant Traffic Supervisor belonging to the Scheduled Caste community has become eligible for promotion to the post of Traffic Supervisor. His case for promotion will be considered in due time.

As per ITDC Recruitment, Promotion and Seniority Rules, the post of Counter Clerk is not a feeder post for promotion to the post of Assistant Traffic Supervisor.

#### U. S. Security aid to Pakistan

144. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the proposed record US 'security aid' to Pakistan during the fiscal year 1986; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government of India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Indian have consistently expressed concern over the sale of sophisticated arms to Pakistan.

#### Abandonment of villages by Tamils in Sri Lanka

145. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports appearing in a Section of the Press to the effect that at least half a dozen villages of Tamilians in Sri Lanka have been totally abandoned by their inhabitants, fleeing from harassment by the island's security forces;

(b) if so, what is the Government's information about the number of such villages and the inhabitants who have deserted their villages during the past one year; and

(c) what is the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) Government have seen press reports to this effect, but have no specific information.

(c) Government are concerned that innocent civilians continue to be affected by violence in Sri Lanka.

**Unlisted cargo in the hold of I.A.C. flight**

146. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that seven crates of unlisted cargo weighing about 5.8 quintals were found in the hold of an IAC flight as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 19th February, 1985; and

(b) if so, whether any problem has been ordered in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An inquiry was conducted and action has been taken against the staff at fault.

**Report of the Minorities Commission**

147. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minorities Commission has recently submitted its report to Government.

(b) if so, what are its major recommendations and

(c) whether Government have accepted the recommendation of the said commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The printed copies of the Report have not so far been received. However, the Report is being processed by the Government.

**Indian Airlines flouting safety rules**

148. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 19th February, 1985 under the caption 'I.A. flouting safety rules'; and if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether any inquiry has since been conducted;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) what action Government have taken to ensure that the Air India and Indian Airlines follow safety rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir. The news item mentions that flight safety is being ignored by Indian Airlines and refers in this regard to the following:

- (i) Flying of aircraft without a Certificate of Airworthiness;
- (ii) Under staffing in Indian Airlines Corporation;
- (iii) Non-maintenance of Minimum Equipment List (M.E.L.)
- (iv) Secuffing of Tyres.
- (v) Overloading of HS-748 aircraft and
- (vi) Absence of Aircraft Maintenance Engineers (AMEs).

(b) and (c) The contents of the news item were examined and it was found that there had been no violation of rules affecting the safety of aircraft.