

phase would involve extension of similar programme for cities other than Class-I on the bank of river Ganga and other Class-I cities on its tributaries.

(c) Preliminary studies have been initiated on Krishna and Kaveri.

People of Indian origin residing in Hong Kong

*230. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of people of Indian origin who have settled down in Hong Kong; and

(b) what is the number of people who have acquired British citizenship and what is the number of Indian citizens there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) According to latest available information from the high Commission of India in Hong Kong, there were approximately 20,000 people of Indian origin in Hong Kong as on 31 December, 1983.

(b) Of the above number, approximately 4,400 persons of Indian origin had acquired British Dependent Territories Citizenship and 14,746 persons were Indian citizens.

Remittances from Saudi Arabia to Haji Mastan for fighting Assembly Elections

@*231. SHRI SHYAM SUNDRA MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some reports have appeared in the press to the effect that some Saudi sources had remitted in a clandestine manner Rs. 1.5 crore to Shri Haji Mastan for fighting recent Assembly elections; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what action has been taken to

@Previously Starred Question No. 194, transferred from 26th March, 1985.

check the flow of foreign money for election purposes?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) Government have seen press reports but have found no apparent link with Shri Haji Mastan as alleged.

(b) Does not arise.

Famine in African Countries

@*321A. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ:

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that several African countries such as Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia, Kenya and Tanzania have been stricken by severe drought and famine;

(b) whether the Government of India have offered to supply, as gift, foodgrains to these countries; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

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

(b) and (c) The Government of India is gifting 100,000 tonnes of wheat through the World Food Programme International Emergency Food Reserve to needy African countries. Under this arrangement India will pay the costs for the grain, internal transport and handling to the nearest Indian ports, and the WFP/IEFR will meet the ocean freight and handling costs at the receiving end. Shipments commenced in February 1985, and are expected to be completed by April 1985. At

@*Previously Starred Question No. 252, transferred from 29th March, 1985.