

(b) The delegation urged early appointment of the Wage Board and the appointment of a representative of the National Union of Journalists as one of the two persons to represent the Working Journalists.

#### Swedish Submarine for Indian Navy

838. Dr. V. B. SINGH :

SHRI R. K. MISHRA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to purchase Swedish submariner for the Indian Navy?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : It is the policy of the Government to promote indigenous construction of various types of warships including submarines with foreign collaboration, if necessary and where so required by purchasing a few numbers built abroad. The Hon'ble Member would appreciate that it will not be in the public interest to disclose further details.

#### Conspiracy in plot for Assassinating King of Bhutan

839. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : SHRI S.G. SARDESAI : DR. Z.A. AHMED : SHRI B.D. BARMAN : SHRI BHOLA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a statement reported to have made by the Bhutanese Ambassador in the UN in May, 1974 to the effect that the plot to assassinate the King of Bhutan was hatched in Darjeeling; and

(b) whether in this connection the name of the elder brother of the Dalai Lama, Glylo Dhondup, was mentioned; and

(c) whether Government have conducted any inquiry in the light of the above statement into the activities of the Glylo Dhondup and other Tibetan refugees associated with them ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARN SINGH) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir, the Government have seen the statement made by the Bhutanese Ambassador to the UN, which was released in Thimpu in May 1974. This statement includes references to Glylo Thondup. The Government do not have any substantive information which would enable them to comment on this matter.

#### Revision of rates of stipends under the Apprenticeship Act

840. SHRI S.C. ANGRE :

DR. RAMKRIPAL SINHA : SHRI O.P. TYAGI : SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the rates of stipends fixed in 1962, 1964 1967 and 1971 according to the rules made under the Apprenticeship Act of 1961;

(b) what were the cost of living indices in those years and to-day;

(c) whether Government propose to revise the rates of stipends in view of high cost of living; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI K.V. RAGHUNATHA REDDY) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) The rates of stipends admissible under the Apprentices Act, 1961 as revised from time to time since its implementation have been as follows :-

From 1-1-1963		From 1-5-64	
During the 1st year	Rs. 25/-p.m	During the 1st 6 months.	Rs. 25/-p.m.
During the 2nd year	Rs. 50/ p.m.	During the next 6 months	Rs. 40 p.m.
During the 3rd year	Rs. 60/-p.m.	During the 2nd year.	Rs 50/ p.m.
		During the 3rd year.	Rs 60/-p.m.