

**REBEL MIZO LEADER IN RAWALPINDI**

**812 SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT**

**SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that the rebel Mizo Leader Laldenga is in Rawalpindi seeking Pakistan's help to reorganise his rebel set-up, and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH)** (a) While Government has seen reports that Laldenga has escaped to Pakistan, there is no confirmation regarding his activities

(b) Does not arise

**UGANDA GOVERNMENT'S INVITATION FOR AN INDIAN TRADE TEAM**

**813 SHRIMATI SITA DEVI** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have received any request from the Government of Uganda for sending an Indian trade team to that country, and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH)** (a) Yes, Sir

(b) While commercial enquiries from Uganda are being processed through normal trade channels, the question whether a trade delegation would serve any useful purpose in the prevailing circumstances remains under Government's consideration

**OPENING OF PASSPORT OFFICES IN STATES**

**814 SHRI N R CHOUDHURY** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to open a passport office in each State in order to expedite issue of passports, and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH)** (a) No, Sir

(b) At present seven Regional Passport Offices are functioning in different parts of India—at Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, Lucknow, Chandigarh and Ahmedabad—and each of these offices has specified areas within its jurisdiction. In general, every effort is made to ensure that requests for passports, etc., are dealt with by the concerned Regional Passport Office with the utmost expedition. Proposals for opening of additional passport offices are considered from time to time on the basis of the volume of passport work and other relevant factors. In view of the increasing need for economy in non-Plan expenditure and the current ban on the creation of new posts, such proposals have now to be examined particularly carefully and thoroughly. Taking into account the various factors involved, Government, at present, have under consideration only one proposal, regarding the opening of a Regional Passport Office in Kerala. It is expected that a decision in the matter will be forthcoming in the near future.

**INDIAN OFFICIALS ATTENDING DIPLOMATIC PARTIES**

**815 SHRI N R CHOUDHURY** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether any incidents have come to the notice of Government where our officials invited to diplomatic parties were first to come and the last to leave, and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in the matter?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH)** (a) No Sir

(b) Does not arise

**IMPORT OF HEAVY ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT**

**816 SHRI N R CHOUDHURY** Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether Central Government have resolved not to import heavy electrical equipment within the next six years, and