

relevant period. Investigations and interrogations are in progress and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House in due course regarding the number of persons in respect of whom there is reasonable suspicion of their being engaged in espionage.

(b) Arrangements have been made for the screening, registration and interrogation of refugees. The utmost vigilance is being maintained by all concerned agencies of the Government.

REPAYMENT OF DEBT BY U A R.

260. SARDAR GURCHARAN-SINGH TOHRA :

SHRI SWAISINGH SISODIA :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE/विदेश व्यापार मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of United Arab Republic have refused to repay the debt of Rs. 23 crores they owe to India; and

(b) is so, the reaction of the Government of India thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE/विदेश व्यापार मंत्री (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

TANDON PANEL ON REORGANISATION OF PLANNING COMMISSION

*261 SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE :

SHRI SUHRID MULLICK CHOUDHURY :

KUMARI SHANTA VASISHT :

Will the Minister of PLANNING/योजना मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the recommendations of the Tandon Panel on the reorganisation of the internal structure of the Planning Commission; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING/योजना मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) : (a) and (b) Some experts were informally consulted regarding the working of the Planning Commission. Their views are under consideration in the light of the recommendations of the Administrative Reforms Commission on the functioning of the Planning Commission.

TAKING OVER OF JUTE AND TEA INDUSTRIES IN WEST BENGAL

*262. SHRI KALYAN ROY : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE/विदेश व्यापार मंत्री be pleased to state whether Government have any scheme under consideration for taking over the Jute and Tea Industries in West Bengal in the near future; and if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE/विदेश व्यापार मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : There is no proposal under the consideration of the Government to take over the Jute and Tea Industries in West Bengal at present.

RECRUITMENT TO POSTS IN WEST BENGAL GOVERNMENT

*263. SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS/गृह मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of persons are proposed to be recruited to the Civil Supplies Department and to other departments of the Government of West Bengal ;

(b) if so, what is the total number of such recruits, department-wise; and

(c) the number of applications which have been received so far for the posts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS/गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI K. C. PANT) : About 400 vacancies under different non-Gazetted categories in the Food and Supplies Department are proposed to be filled up by fresh recruitment. About 7000 persons have been recruited so far