

the Prime Ministers of Britain and India on the intended British move to resume arms sales to South Africa. As the correspondence is of a confidential nature, its contents cannot be disclosed.

FRIGATES BUILT FOR INDIAN NAVY

1426. SHRI K.L.N. PRASAD : Will the MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government's attention has been drawn to the recent Press reports to the effect that two frigates built for the Indian Navy in the Soviet Union had undergone modifications in the British Naval dockyard at Hong Kong; and

(b) if so, the reasons for such modification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH MAHIDA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. But there was no truth in the press reports. In fact only a small bearing of an air compressor of one frigate was remetalled by the Royal Naval Base at Hong Kong. It was a very minor maintenance work.

HOUSES OWNED BY ARMED PERSONNEL

1427. SHRI N.G. GORAY : Will the MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of personnel of the armed forces who are owners of houses in Lucknow and Poona and the number of such personnel who have hired their own houses; and

(b) the number of them who have desired to dehire their houses after their retirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH MAHIDA) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

DEHIRING OF HOUSES IN LUCKNOW AND POONA

1428. SHRI N. G. GORAY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the date of approval of dehiring of the houses at No. 6, Sardar Patel Marg, Lucknow Cantt. and No. 14, Right Flank Lines, Poona Cantt. ;

(b) whether this Ministry was the approving authority ;

(c) the date on which these houses were acquired by their owners ; and

(d) whether any of these owners belonged to the cadres of I.C.S. or I.F.S. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH MAHIDA) : (a) The dates are given below :

6 Sardar Patel 15th October, 1968
Marg, Lucknow

14 Right Flank 8th October, 1968
Lines, Poona

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The exact dates are being ascertained and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Yes, Sir.

SUPPLY OF POWER BY D.V.C.

1429. SHRI KALYAN ROY : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Damodar Valley Corporation has been supplying power both inside and outside the valley areas in accordance with the D.V.C. Act without drawing any line of demarcation between the above two areas and the said arrangement has now been changed by restricting the D.V.C. to supply power only within the Valley area leaving such arrangements to the uneconomical supply of power by the two State Electricity Boards of Bihar and West Bengal ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether the Central Government have any proposal under consideration to make the D.V.C. a regional power supply organisation under the Central sector to ensure supply of cheap power in an important area of Bihar and West Bengal ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The Damodar Valley Corpn. is supplying electrical energy both inside and outside the valley the supply outside the valley is being made with the permission of the State Governments concerned as required under