

maintenance, repairs etc. of Indian cars. It has, however, to be recognised that foreign service personnel have to move along with the international community and have, therefore, to adjust themselves to diplomatic etiquette and usage while preserving their Indian cultural values and way of life.

(b) Yes, Madam.

(c) Wives of our Ambassadors, except one, are all of Indian nationality and they wear Indian dress and speak one or more of the languages of India.

(d) Eleven Heads of Missions from public life.

(e) No such proposal is necessary or under consideration of the Government, though the functioning of our Missions abroad and their effectiveness are reviewed from time to time and whenever necessary, suitable action is taken].

RESETTLEMENT OF PERSONS OF INDIAN ORIGIN IN CEYLON

1258. SARDAR HARCHARAN SINGH DUGAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indo-Ceylonese agreement regarding the resettlement of persons of Indian origin in Ceylon is being implemented as per its schedule ;

(b) if so, the progress achieved so far towards the implementation of the said agreement ;

(c) the total number of those persons who have so far come to India ; and

(d) the manner in which they have been resettled in India ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Madam,

(b) A Joint Committee, consisting of officials of our High Commission in Colombo and the Ceylon Government, have been meeting regularly in Colombo to review the progress of implementation. Approximately 41,000 persons have been registered as Indian citizens and approximately 1000 as Ceylon citizens.

(c) About 9,800 repatriates have returned to India till end of June this year.

(d) Most of the repatriates have gone to their home-towns and villages direct, and have resettled on their own. The State Governments have reported that 657 persons have been given rehabilitation assistance in the form of business loans, employment, allotment of land and educational concessions.

MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

1259. SARDAR HARCHARAN SINGH DUGAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the assessment of the Government of India about the present situation in the Middle East ;

(b) whether the Government of India took any initiative during the past two months to resolve the crisis there ; and

(c) if so, the details of the initiative taken in the matter and the outcome thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The Government of India view the present situation in the West Asia with anxiety.

(b) The Government of India continues to support the Security Council Resolution of November 22, 1967, and efforts and proposals which aim at implementing it. The Government themselves have however not taken any initiative during the past two months to resolve the crisis there.

(c) Does not arise.

ENTRY OF INDIAN NEWSMEN INTO MALAYSIA

1260. SARDAR HARCHARAN SINGH DUGAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian newsmen were not allowed to enter Malaysia to study the recent racial riots there and had to depend upon the correspondents of certain other countries who were permitted to enter that country ; and

(b) if so, whether the Government of India took up this matter with the Government of Malaysia, and if so, with what result ?