

recommendations of the Administrative Reforms Commission with regard to the Planning Machinery in the States.

PRESS LIAISON COMMITTEES

1187. SARDAR RAM SINGH : SHRI JAGAT NARAIN : SHRI B. K. MAHANTI : CHAUDHARY A. MOHAMMAD :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to set up Press Liaison Committees at the Centre and the States for holding consultations with them before initiating any action against newspapers;

(b) if so, whether any decision in this regard has been taken; and

(c) if so, the States where the committees have already been set up?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH): (a) No, Sir. Views expressed by editors in respect of special powers are however under consideration.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

NAGAS TREATY WITH INDIA FOR ARMS

1188. SARDAR RAM SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 17th June, 1968 to the effect that according to the Vice-Chairman of the Naga National Council the Nagas would stop importing foreign arms if they can establish commercial treaty with India for purchasing arms ; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in the matter?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Such a request, if made, would certainly be considered as absurd and reasonable.

INDIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER IN LONDON

1189. SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the criticism made against the High Commissioner of India in London, both in foreign and the Indian Press, about his being late by about 35 minutes in a function held on the 17th May, 1968; and

(b) if so, what were the reasons for which the High Commissioner attended the function so late?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) and

(b) The facts as ascertained from the High Commissioner are that due to a road block and the resultant diversion of traffic the High Commissioner was unavoidably delayed by about 15 minutes in reaching the function.

SOUTH VIETNAMESE PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION IN INDIA

1190. SHRI M. R. VENKATA RAMAN :

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what was the purpose for which the Parliamentary delegation from South Vietnam visited the country in July, 1968;

(b) whether the delegation was invited by the Government of India; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative who sponsored the visit?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) The Delegation was not invited by the Government of India and all arrangements concerning the visit were made by the Consulate-General of the Republic of Vietnam in New Delhi. The Delegation came to India to acquaint us with their point of view concerning the present situation in Vietnam.

1191. [Transferred to the 21th August, 1968.]