

(b) whether the move is likely to enlarge the conflict into a large-scale war; and

(c) if so, what are Government's reactions in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : (a) While addressing the Central Committee of the Arab Socialist Union on October 10, 1968, President Nasser is reported in the Press as having said :

"Our position regarding a peaceful settlement is clear to everybody and that is what we welcome any honourable peaceful settlement. But if there is no means of achieving it then we have no other choice but to regain every inch of occupied Arab land by force."

(b) Government; do not think it likely.

(c) Does not arise.

MIGRATION TO INDIA FROM KARACHI AND DACCA

*401. SHRI M. PURKAYASTHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total number of applications for migration to India pending in the High Commissioner's Offices in Karachi and Dacca to-date; and

(b) how many persons have surrendered their Pakistani passports on arrival in India during the period 1964 to October, 1968?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) :

(a) and (b) The information is being collected from the Indian Missions in Karachi and Dacca and the State Governments.

*402. [Transferred to the 11th December, 1968].

U.S.S.R 's NUCLEAR PACT W/TH PAKISTAN

*403. SHRI G. BARBORA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of U.S.S.R. is going to sign a Nuclear Pact with Pakistan; and

(b) if so, what is the Government of India's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) According to reports, the proposed agreement provides for Pak-Soviet Collaboration on the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

♦404. [Transferred to the 11th December, 1968].

PROMOTION OF GRADE II STENOGRAPHERS OF THE DGOF

*405. SHRI M. VERO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the re-designated grade II stenographers of the Directorate General of Ordnance Factories have since been promoted to the posts of Superintendents;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) what are the directions of the Ministry of Home Affairs to the DGOF in this regard; and

(d) the approximate time that is likely to be taken to promote the redesignated grade II stenographers to the posts of superintendents;

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) : (a) and (b) Out of a total of four posts of Superintendents reserved for Stenographers Grade I and Grade II at the Directorate General of Ordnance Factories, one Grade I and two Grade II Stenographers have been approved for promotion as Superintendents. The question of promoting a re-designated Grade II Stenographer against the remaining vacancy is under consideration.

(c) According to the directions of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Stenographers Grade II of DGOF Headquarters may be promoted as Superintendents, only after the senior persons in the grade get the necessary experience in the ministerial line, by working in the grade of Assistant for a specified period.

(d) The question of filling the remaining one vacancy of Superintendent will be considered when a panel of suitable qualified candidates is received from the relevant Departmental Promotion Committee.