

(iii) The Prime Minister of Ceylon stated that the repatriates returning to India under the 1964 Agreement would now be able to transfer all their assets to the full limit permitted under the current Exchange Control Regulations (Rs. 75,000 Ceylon) without purchasing Foreign Exchange Entitlement Certificates for the purpose.

(iv) It was also agreed that the question of 150,000 persons of Indian origin in Ceylon, who were not covered by the 1964 Agreement will be taken up when some further progress has been made in the implementation of that Agreement.

†RELEASE OF FREIGHTER CARRYING WHEAT
FOR INDIA

933. SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the freighter 'Observer' carrying American wheat to India which was one of the ships stranded in the Suez Canal during the 6-day war between Israel and the United Arab Republic has since been released by the Government of the United Arab Republic; and

(b) if not, what steps have been taken by the Government of India so far to get the ship released?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) The freighter remains stranded in the Canal along with other ships due to the continuing West Asian conflict.

(b) The Government of India have fully supported the Security Council Resolution (No. 242) of November 22, 1967 for settlement of the West Asian conflict and the efforts of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General to promote agreement based on that Resolution.

‡KIDNAPPING OF NAGA LEADERS BY RIVAL
FACTION

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

(a) what were the circumstances under which three prominent leaders of the underground Nagas were kidnapped by the rival faction; and

(b) what are the reactions of Government in this regard?

†Transferred from the 6th December, 1968.

‡Transferred from the 4th December, 1968.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) Three underground leaders Khiesiu, Ramyo and Kuhuvi were reported to have been "kidnapped" by a member of the rival faction on the 30th October, 1968 near Chedema village in Kohima District. This development is reported to be due to the internal dissensions amongst the Underground. The situation is being watched.

†CENTRAL ASSISTANCE TO STATES

808. SHRI B. C. PATTANAYAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have decided upon the criteria for giving Central assistance to State Governments; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India have accepted the criteria for the distribution of Central assistance to States for the Fourth Five Year Plan, as recommended by the Committee of the National Development Council at its meeting held on September 13, 1968.

(b) Attention is invited to the reply given to Part (b) of the Starred Question No. 237 on 28-11-1958.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED ANTI-INDIAN AGITATION IN
NEPAL

श्री राजनारायण (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमन् मैं नेपाल में भारत विरोधी आंदोलन की ओर प्रधान मंत्री का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ।

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : Sir, on 23rd November 1968, our Embassy in Kathmandu noticed a news item on the front page of the newspaper "Rising Nepal" reproducing a report from the News Agency Rashtriya Sammad Samiti. The news item read:—

"Four Nepalese abducted from Susta by Indian officials. Indian officials

†Transferred from the 3rd December, 1968.