

the Himachal Pradesh Government Forests and that the Himachal Pradesh Forest Department has claimed the cost from 'Deepak Project', and

(d) if so, what is the amount of the claim?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) : (a) to (d) A statement containing the reply is placed on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

STATEMENT

Project Deepak purchased some "fuel wood" in connection with works on the road from Kingal to Basantpur. According to available information about 1100 metric tons of firewood were purchased from the following local suppliers :

- (i) Shri K R Sharma } of Baragaon.
- (ii) Shri Mri Mani. }
- (iii) Shri Gyan Singh of Kingal.
- (iv) Shri Mehar Chand of Basantpur.

Himachal Pradesh Forest authorities were approached by the Project to mark trees falling on the road alignment and indicate disposal before the commencement of work. Out of 159 trees marked by the Forest Department, 40 trees were affected in the course of blasting. A claim amounting to Rs. 3,832.66 was however received from District Forest Officer Kotgarh in respect of 'unauthorised' felling of trees. This claim was refuted by the unit concerned in May 1968. No reference regarding the claim as been received from the Forest authorities thereafter.

FUTURE OF INDIANS IN KENYA

***533. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the report which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' on the 20th November, 1968 to the effect that Indians in Kenya have no future in that country; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by the Government of India to safeguard the interests of those Indians?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has seen a report which suggests that the people of Indian origin might have to leave Kenya within the next five to ten years.

The people of Indian origin in Kenya are either Kenyan citizens or citizens of U.K. or of India. In view of the general trend in Kenya to gradually Africanise trade and the services, it is inevitable that persons other than Kenyan Nationals will be affected. So far as U. K. citizens of Indian origin in Kenya are concerned, arrangements have already been made between the Governments of India and the United Kingdom in regard to the resettlement of those who may be compelled to leave Kenya and who may wish to come to India.

INDIAN FLAGS AS WINDOW CURTAINS IN LONDON

***534. SHRI J. S. TILAK :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian National Flags were recently found being used as window curtains in some of the houses in London;

(b) whether, in spite of the fact that the attention of the Indian High Commissioner was drawn to this by Indian Citizens there, nothing has so far been done in this matter; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to prevent such abuse of our National Flag?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) :

(a) According to available information: this appears to be incorrect.

(b) The attention of the High Commission was drawn to this matter and appropriate enquiries were made.

(c) Does not arise.

जम्मू के निकट पाकिस्तानी ब्रिगेड

*** 535 श्री वसंतोपल्ल ठेंगड़ी :** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पाकिस्तान ने जम्मू के निकट पाक अधिकृत ग्राम निकलाई में एक सैनिक ब्रिगेड का मुख्यालय स्थापित किया है,

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि पाकिस्तानी चौकियों पर बहुत बड़ी संख्या में चीनी सैनिक भी देखे गये हैं; और