

coordination with the rebel Mizo, Kuki and other tribals; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to prevent such a colusion?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) : (a) and (b) Pakistan continues to encourage the hostile elements in the eastern sector by supplying them arms and imparting military training. There is as yet no indication that these hostile elements have been associated with training exercises of the Pakistan Army units. Government however keep a close watch on these developments and take necessary steps to deal with them.

254. [Transferred to the 27th November, 1968.]

ANNUAL PLAN FOR 1969-70

255. SHRI K. SUNDARAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission is engaged at present in preparing an annual plan for 1969-70 and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken a decision not to go ahead with the Fourth Five Year Plan?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) The Planning Commission is simultaneously engaged in the preparation of the Fourth Five Year Plan 1969-74 as well as the Annual Plan for 1969-70.

CZECH-NATIONALS IN INDIA

256. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR) : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Czech national in India sought Government's permission to go to Canada; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) 21 Czech nationals applied to the Foreigners Regional Registration Officer, New Delhi for grant of exit permits to leave India.

(b) This group of Czech nationals consisted of seven technicians and their families. The technicians were working in the Foundry Forge Project of the Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited, Ranchi. They applied for grant of exit permits on 4th October, 1968, while holidaying in Delhi. Their decision to leave India was, as stated by them, due to the political situation in their country. After being satisfied that the persons wanted to leave India of their own accord, Government decided to grant them exit permits since they had indicated their firm intention to proceed to Canada and they held valid Czech passports. They left India by air for Canada on 9th October 1968.

MILITARY EQUIPMENT GIVEN TO PAKISTAN BY U.S.S.R.

257. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any information about the military equipment so far given to Pakistan by U.S.S.R.; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Reaction of Government has been indicated by the Prime Minister in her statement in Parliament on July 22, 1968.

BHUTANESE DELEGATION TO U.N.O.

258. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Bhutan sent any delegation to U.N.O. this year; and

(b) if so, what facilities and assistance was given by Government in this connection to them?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) The Government of Bhutan sent a small team of 4 to New York for 2 weeks to, *inter alia*, watch the proceedings of U.N.O. One of the teams is under training with our delegation in New York.