

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir. As we deal with South Korea as well as North Korea on a *de facto* basis, we maintain consular relations with both of them.

(b) Does not arise.

EXTRA ALLOWANCES TO PARA TROOPERS

372. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any extra allowances are paid to para-troopers in the Air Force;

(b) whether any claims are admissible to the family of those Air Force personnel who lose their lives in jumping with parachutes; and

(c) whether any representations have been received from paratroopers in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Families of Para personnel who lose their lives as a result of para-jumping are eligible for grant of special family pensionary awards and also death gratuity.

(c) No, Sir.

NATIONALISATION OF CINEMA HOUSES

373. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report in the *Indian Express* of March 20 O'dak edition published from Delhi, that the Punjab Government have

decided to nationalise cinema houses; and

(b) if so, whether any advice was sought by the Punjab Government on the subject from the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH): (a) Not March 20 precisely, but a press report to this effect has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) No advice was sought by the State Government in the matter.

ASIA FOUNDATION

374. SHRI A. D. MANI: SHRI G. R. PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) for how many years the Asia Foundation has been functioning in India;

(b) how many projects of the Government of India have been given grants by the Foundation; and

(c) the reasons for which the activities of the Foundation have been discontinued by Government?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Since 1962, when it was permitted to establish its office in India.

(b) None, Sir. Scholarships, travel grants, gifts as also assistance in undertaking research and conducting seminars have been received by some officials and Government institutions with the approval of Government.

(c) As the Asia Foundation had received funds from questionable sources.