

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Government of Burma have developed an air-strip on the Island which is close to Narcondam?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Burma has an air-strip on the Great Coco Island.

DRAFTING OF INDIAN CITIZENS IN U.S. ARMED FORCES

379. **SHRI CHITTA BASU:**
SHRI D. THENGARI:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian citizens who are residing at present in U.S.A. are being drafted into the U.S. Armed Forces to fight in Vietnam; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in the matter?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Under U.S. Laws, aliens between the ages of 18 and 26 who hold permanent visas for residence in the U.S.A. are liable to be drafted into the U.S. armed forces. Indian nationals, like other aliens, are required, on applying for a permanent visa, to sign a declaration, which commits them to the liability of being drafted. If they do not wish to join the U.S. armed forces, they are free to leave the country. According to the available information, 9 Indian nationals have been given notice of their being drafted, but there is nothing to suggest that any have been posted to the theatre of war in Vietnam.

(b) As the Indian nationals involved have accepted their liability voluntarily, this is primarily a matter

between them and the U.S. Government. The Government of India does not enter into the picture and, therefore, the question of their reaction does not arise.

NEWSPAPER FINANCE CORPORATION

380. **SHRI G. R. PATIL:**
SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:

Will the Minister of **INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING** be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in the matter of the setting up of a Newspaper Finance Corporation; and

(b) by when it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH): (a) and (b) It has not been found possible to set up a Corporation owing to lack of resources. However, a suggestion to include newspapers under the definition of 'Industry' in the Industrial Development Bank of India Act, 1964, State Financial Corporations Act, 1951 and the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948 so as to qualify them for credit from the above sources is under consideration. The desirability of including small printing presses in the term "small-scale industrial unit" under credit guarantee Scheme, is also under consideration.

ADDITIONAL TELEVISION STUDIOS FOR DELHI

381. **SHRIMATI LALITHA (RAJAGOPALAN):** Will the Minister of **INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the additional television studios and synchronising recording studios for the Delhi TV Centre are expected to be commissioned shortly;