

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Necessary measures to safeguard the security of the country have been taken. Some idea of this is given in the annual report of the Ministry of Defence which the hon'ble Member may have seen.

AID TO SINGAPORE, KENYA AND MALAYSIA

*453. DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what aid was offered by India to Singapore, Kenya and Malaysia from 1965 to 1967; and

(b) how much of the aid has been actually given to the countries referred to in part (a) above up to 1st of May, 1967?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The following is the assistance offered by India to Singapore, Kenya and Malaysia during the years 1965—37.

Singapore.—Training places were provided in India for 12 personnel from Singapore and the services of 1 expert was made available. A gift of 1 Pushpak aircraft manufactured by H.A.L. was announced by the Foreign Minister during his visit to Singapore in May, 1967.

Kenya.—A credit of Rs. 2.5 crores has been extended to the Government of Kenya for the purchase of -ailway rolling stock and other railway equipment from India. The specific items to be covered and terms and conditions are under negotiations between the two Governments.

Training places were provided to 82 persons and 5 experts were deputed to Kenya during the period.

Malaysia.—137 nationals of Malaysia were provided training facilities and the services of 4 experts have been made available.

During his visit to Malaysia in May, 1967, the Foreign Minister announced the presentation of 1 Pushpak aircraft and two gliders.

STATUS OF NAGALAND

*454. SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item in the 'Hindustan Times' of 15th May, 1967 to the effect that the underground Nagas may accept some status "within the Indian Union", and

(b) if so, whether any formal communication has been received by Government from the underground Nagas?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M. C. CHAGLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

RE-ORGANISATION OF SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE CABINET

*455 SHRI KRISHAN KANT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the Foundation Day Address of the Sri Ram Institute for Industrial Research in Delhi by Dr. D. S. Kothari, Member of the Scientific Advisory Committee to the Cabinet, wherein he has suggested a drastic re-organisation of the Committee;

(b) if so, what are Government's views on the functioning and usefulness of the Committee; and

(e) whether Government propose to reorganise the Committee?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes.

(b) Consistent with its charter of duties, the Scientific Advisory Committee to the Cabinet is concerned with scientific and technological matters of wider application, either *suo motu* or on references received from Ministries etc. The recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Committee to the Cabinet cover a wide range of subjects including the formulation and implementation of the Government's scientific policy, co-ordination of scientific work among Ministries of Government, semi-Governmental and non-Governmental scientific institutions in the country.

(c) This is being examined.

DEHRA DUN STATION OF ALL INDIA RADIO

आकाशवाणी का देहरादून केन्द्र

*456. श्री टी० पांडे : क्या सूचना तथा प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि आकाशवाणी के देहरादून केन्द्र को किन कारणों से बन्द किया जा रहा है ?

*456. SHRI T. PANDE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the reasons for which the Dehra Dun Station of the All India Radio is being closed?

सूचना तथा प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री के० के० शाह) : देहरादून में आकाशवाणी का कोई केन्द्र कभी भी परिचालित नहीं था, अतः उसको बंद करने का सवाल ही नहीं उठता ।

f [THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH): All India Radio never had any station in operation at Dehra Dun and hence the question of closure does not arise.]

VISIT OF INDIA BY FOREIGN VICE-PRESIDENT OF U.S.A.

*457. SHRI V. V. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a former Vice-President of U.S.A. visited India recently; and

(b) if so, whether any assurances have been given by him that the Government of U.S.A. will help India in case China attacks again?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M. C. CHAGLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The former Vice-President, Mr. Nixon, is not a member of the U.S. Government and the question of assurances by him on behalf of the U.S. Government does not arise.

JOURNALIST AS DIRECTOR GENERAL OF EXTERNAL PUBLICITY

*458. SHRI M. C. SHAH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the decision taken on the proposal to appoint a top level Journalist as Director-General of External Publicity¹

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M. C. CHAGLA): At one time a proposal was considered to appoint a Journalist in the Ministry of External Affairs to deal with external publicity, but on further consideration it was decided not to pursue the matter, and to continue the practice of having a Foreign Service officer to deal with publicity, as has been the case since 1947.