

in the Indian High Commission, Ceylon, for issuing passports to persons of Indian origin returning to India as a result of the implementation of the Indo-Ceylon Agreement; and

(b) how many passports were so far issued prior to the week ending July 9, 1967?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M. C. CHAGLA): (a) Government are considering proposals for additional staff in Colombo and Kandy as required to cope with the increase in work expected in connection with the implementation of Indo-Ceylon Agreement 1964.

(b) 2013 passports and 7260 Emergency Certificates have been issued between 30th October, 1964 and 8th July, 1967.

PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES FOR THE SAFETY OF INDIANS IN RANGOON

413. SHRI N. R. MUNISWAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any precautionary measures were adopted to safeguard the security of the Indian nationals residing in Rangoon towards the end of June, 1967 at the time of anti-Chinese rioting in Rangoon; and

(b) whether any Chinese or Burmese anti-social elements took undue advantage of creating confusion there by involving the innocent Indians in that fray?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M. C. CHAGLA): (a) At no stage during the recent anti-Chinese disturbances was there any danger to Indian nationals in Rangoon. The question of precautionary measures therefore did not arise.

(b) No casualty was suffered by Indian nationals in Burma.

IMPROVEMENT IN INDO-CHINA RELATIONS

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

(a) what steps, if any, the Government of India are taking to improve relations between India and China;

(b) whether any talks have taken place regarding the areas of India forcibly occupied by the Chinese since the invasion of India in 1962; and

(c) whether it is a fact that there is concentration of forces on the border by any country and, if so, which?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M. C. CHAGLA): (a) No steps can be taken by Government for improvement of relations between India and China as long as China maintains its present bellicose attitude towards India, interferes in our internal affairs, advocates subversion of the legally constituted Government of the country, and rejects peaceful co-existence.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Chinese forces continue to remain in strength along India-China border.

TRANSMITTERS

415. SHRI R. K. BHUWALKA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in the installation of powerful transmitters at Jammu, Imphal, Trichur and the one near Calcutta with the Soviet assistance; and

(b) when these transmitters are likely to be on the air?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH): (a) and (b) The projects at Jammu, Imphal and Calcutta

are under implementation. It is expected that the installation at Calcutta would be completed in the latter half of 1968 and the installations at Jammu and Imphal during the course of the next three years. The project at Trichur has yet to be cleared by Finance.

DAMAGE TO INDIAN HOSPICE IN JERUSALEM

416. SHRI MAHAMMED HANEEF: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Hospice in Jerusalem was very badly damaged by Israeli bombing during the recent conflict between Arab and Israel; and

(b) if so, the details of the damages?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M. C. CHAGLA): (a) and (b) The Indian Hospice in Jerusalem was badly damaged by Israeli shelling during the conflict in West Asia since it came under the direct firing of the Israeli forces. The details of the damage are being ascertained.

CONFERENCE OVER U.S. BOMBING OF NORTH VIETNAM

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

(a) whether Government have received a report regarding the conference recently held in Stockholm, sponsored by many organisations in the United States and elsewhere to discuss the question of the invasion of North Vietnam by the United States and other forces;

(b) If so, whether Government would lay a copy of the report on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M. C. CHAGLA): (a) A report from our Embassy in Stockholm is expected shortly on the subject of the World Conference on Vietnam recently held there.

(b) Such reports are generally of a confidential nature,

SOVIET UNION'S RESOLUTION ON WEST ASIA

418. 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 which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of the 15th July, 1967 to the effect that the Soviet Union has created an embarrassing situation for India and other non-aligned countries by introducing a resolution on West Asia question in the U.N. Economic and Social Council; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M. C. CHAGLA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Soviet Union has tabled a Draft Resolution on the West Asian question under item No. 2 of the agenda of the current Session of the U. N. Economic and Social Council at Geneva. The draft resolution seeks to instruct the U. N. Secretary-General to assess the damage caused by Israel to the Arab countries, to grant economic assistance to the U.A.R. Syria and Jordan from U. N. resources, and to require Israel to pay compensation for the damage caused by it. If the Resolution is put to the vote, our Delegation will vote in favour of it.

ANGLO-US. BASES IN INDIAN OCEAN

419. SHRI M. S. OBEROI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any further consultations have been held with the British