

the defence strength between India and Pakistan that we are fully equipped. Is the Government not aware or has the Government not taken any steps to see that such bases are not there really? Are the reports in the press correct or incorrect? Has not the Government been able to collect this information from the intelligence sources of other powers as well?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: I have given the information that we have been able to gather. It is very difficult to say what is happening in another country. In regard to defence arrangements they maintain secrecy. Also, one other point. If we do come to know of some such thing, it is not always very easy to discuss it.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJYAPEE: I should like to know whether our Ambassador in Iran has made any formal representation in this regard to the Government of Iran and, if so, whether any reply has been received.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: No, Sir. No formal representation has been made.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know if any informal representation has been made?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Information has been collected.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: He has said no formal representation has been made. But our Ministers are in the habit of making informal representations. Has that sort of thing been made in this particular case? If not, why is the Government so silent, the Indian diplomat there?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: We are not silent. We do not shout about things.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am asking whether your Minister in

Teheran in his private talk made this point without giving a formal note or any such thing. That surely is not shouting. But was there any whisper?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: When he gathered this information, he must have talked to some people.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I would like to add that we have been in touch with the Government of Iran, with the Government of West Germany and also with the Government of Canada. As a result of all these efforts we had this result when most of these planes, as has already been mentioned, have gone back to Iran.

*35. [Transferred to the 16th November, 1966.]

KUTCH TRIBUNAL

*39. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN: f SHRI S. SUPAKAR; DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR: SHRI JAGAT NARAIN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made by the International Tribunal on the dispute over the areas of Kutch between India and Pakistan;

(b) when it is likely to give its award; and

(c) what expenditure has so far been incurred by the Government of India on presentation of our case before the Tribunal?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). Pursuant to the decisions of the Tribunal taken at its session held in Geneva in February 1966, both India and Pakistan

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri R. P. Khailan.

•imultaneously presented their memorials, counter-memorials and replies to the Tribunal by June 1, August 1, and September 1, 1966, respectively. The oral hearings before the Tribunal commenced on the 15th September, 1966, at Geneva and the counsel for India addressed the Tribunal. The opening address of the Indian counsel concluded on the 19th October. The leading counsel for Pakistan has commenced his opening address. After the conclusion of his address counsel for India will reply and then the counsel for Pakistan will reply. The tribunal will give their award thereafter.

(c) The accounts regarding actual expenditure incurred so far have not yet been compiled.

SHRI S. SUPAKAR: May I know at any tentative date for the award has been fixed?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: No, Sir.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: Sir, "before I put the question I want to seek your permission to make a change in the question in regard to the year 1959 which should be 1929. With this amendment I put my question.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: My answer is according to the original.

SUPPLY OF OLD MAPS TO ARMY

•40. SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the army was supplied with maps prepared in 1959 during the engagement with Pakistan in September, 1965; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the maps not being brought up-to-date?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) Although some of the maps had been prepared in 1959, the bulk of the primary maps supplied were those printed subsequent to 1959 and in some cases as late as 1965. Even so all essential data collected subsequent to the preparation of the maps had been supplied to the concerned Army formations to bring their knowledge up-to-date.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: May I know if it is a fact that these old maps were supplied during the Pakistani aggression to our people and thereby they were not in a position to locate the topography of the place with the result that the Pakistani people attacked us and we had to run away, putting our arms and ammunition behind, helter skelter?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: That has not happened. I think the hon. Member is misinformed about the situation. In fact as I have already indicated, most of the maps have been printed subsequently to 1959, and I may also say that all essential data collected subsequent to the preparation of any maps are supplied to the army formations from time to time to enable them to keep their knowledge up-to-date. That is what has been done in the last conflict also.

SHRI G. MURAHARI: The Government in its reply has said that some maps of 1929 were supplied. I would like to know why the Government did not change all these maps soon after they got independence. Are we to take it that this Government still has the hangover of the British Empire here? It is 1966 today and we are being told that maps prepared in 1929 are still in existence with the army. I would like to have an answer from the Government why these maps are allowed to be there.