

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Sikh religious places of worship, particularly Punja Sahib, in Pakistan are in a state of neglect; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken up the question with the Government of Pakistan for their proper upkeep ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) Several of the Sikh shrines in Pakistan are not being maintained satisfactorily. The pilgrims who visited Punja Sahib during Baisakhi last month reported that certain parts of the premises were not as clean as they should have been.

(b) The question of their repair and maintenance has been taken up with the Government of Pakistan on a number of occasions.

TASHKENT AGREEMENT

f SHRI N. SRI RAMA |
REDDY: ^| SHRI J. C.
NAGI (___ REDDY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the matters that are still pending discussion between India and Pakistan under the Tashkent Agreement and the matters that were fully settled ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): Except for military withdrawals and disengagement, restoration of normal diplomatic relations, exchange of prisoners of war and limited resumption of postal and telecommunication links, the progress on implementation of other provisions of the Tashkent Declaration is held up as Pakistan does not seem interested in further normalisation of relations between the two countries.

COMPLAINT REGARDING USE OF POISON GAS IN VIETNAM

*14. SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the International Control Commission for Indo-China has received

any complaint regarding the use of poison gas by the U.S. Government in South Vietnam;

(b) if so, whether India, as Chairman of the I.C.C., has taken steps to Verify the complaint; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what is the result of such verification.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) From time to time, the International Commission has received complaints from the People's Army of North Vietnam about the use of toxic chemicals and gases by the United States of America in South Vietnam.

(b) and (c) Any action on complaints received from either party has to be taken by the Commission as a whole. India as the Chairman of the International Commission cannot take action on its own to verify complaints.

*15. [Transferred to the 6th May, 1966]

ENQUIRY INTO DEATH OF LATE SHRI LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI

*16. SHRI G. MURAHARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether Government propose to set up an enquiry into the circumstances leading to the death of the late Prime Minister Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): No, Sir.

REPORT ON INDIA'S DEFENCE PROBLEMS

* 17. SHRI ARJUN ARORA t Will the Minister of DEFENCE be phased to state .

(a) whether it is a fact that the Institute of Strategic Study, London, has prepared a report on India's Defence Problems; and

(b) if so, whether the same has been made available to the Government of India ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): (a) The Institute for Strategic Studies, London, has not prepared