1049

1[THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHR1 RAJ BAHADUR): (a) to (c) So far five such awards have been made-one in February 1965 and four in January 1966. Apparently, the reference is to the last four awards, a men ion of which was also made in the Annual Report of this Ministry for 1965-66. A statement giving the requisite information in respect of those four awards is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix LVJI, Annexure No. 12.]

TEACHING OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

- *194. SHRI YELLA REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government propose to set up a centralised agency to guide the teaching of foreign languages in the country; and
- (b) if so, what are the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) : (a) and (b) The proposal to set up a Central Institute for the teaching of foreign languages in India is under consideration. The details have not been finalised yet.

IN DO-CEYLON AGREEMENT

*195. SHRI OM MEHTA: SHRI R. T. PARTHASARATHY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the progress so far mad; in the implementation of the Indo-Ceylon Agreement of October, 1964?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH >: The Joint Committee se! up at Colombo under the Indo-Ceylon Agreement has been meeting regularly to discuss and 'ettle the various steps to be taken in implementins the Agreement. Ti is understood that the Government of Ceylon are shortly introducing legislation in the Ceylon Parliament to confer Ceylon

t[] English translation.

citizenship on Stateless persons. Thereafter public notices calling for applications for Indian/Ceylon citizenship will be issued..

to Questions

INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

- * 196. SHRI D. THJENGARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a Reviewing Committee on work of the Indian Statistical Institute has been appointed; and
- (b) if so, the progress so far made by the Committee in its work?

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

(b) The Review Committee has made u general review of the problems of the Institute, has held discussions with its members as well as outside experts and has divided itself into four sub-committees. These subcommittees have met several times and their work is neanng completion. The Review Committee has already made some interim recommenda lions to Government and expects to submit its report by the end of October 1966.

RECOMMENDATION OF INFORMATION DIRECTORS

*I97. SHRI M. C. SHAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the recent Conference of the States' Information Directors has submitted its recommendations to Government; and
- (b) if so, the main recommendations and the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MIN'STER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A statement containing the main recommendations made by the State Diretors of Information at the meeting held on June 6-7, 1966, is laid on the Table of the House. The recommendations were considered by the Conference of the State Ministers of Information held on July 20-21, 1966, which generally approved them. The Central and the State Governments will now take action to imploment the recommendations as far as practicable. [See Appendix LVII, Annexure No. 13.1