

REPRESENTATION FROM THE STAFF ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION

59. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the All India Radio Staff Artists' Association have on 9th June, 1966 represented to the Minister about their demands and difficulties; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The demands have been discussed with the representatives of the A.I.R. Staff Artists Association and further examination is in progress.

MILITARY BUILD-UP IN EAST PAKISTAN

60. SHRI N. R. M. SWAMY:

SHRI MAHABIR DASS:

SHRI B. N. MANDAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a heavy build-up of the Pakistan army with about four divisions in East Pakistan;

(b) whether it is also a fact that one squadron of Chinese jets consisting of 30 planes arrived in Dacca immediately after Chinese Foreign Minister's recent visit to that place; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Government are aware of the increase in Pakistani military build-up in East Pakistan and of the Chinese assistance in connection therewith.

It will not be in public interest to discuss details.

(c) All such matters are taken into consideration in our defence planning.

BEAUTIFYING AREA OF RED FORT

61. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Defence has received a plan from the Delhi Municipal Corporation beautifying the Red Fort area;

(b) if so, what are the main features of the plan; and its estimated cost; and

(c) the extent of expenditure to be met by the Ministry of Defence?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS):

(a) to (c) No proposals have been received by the Defence Ministry from the Delhi Municipal Corporation for beautifying the Red Fort area. Certain proposals for the administration of areas in and around Red Fort were however formulated at a meeting called by the Chief Commissioner Delhi. These proposals are broadly as follows:

(i) The open lawns between the Elgin Road and the Red Fort be declared as "Red Fort area" in terms of Section 508(2) of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957. The lawns be maintained by the Municipal Corporation and be available to the members of the public for recreational purposes subject to military requirements.

(ii) A strip of land for widening the Elgin Road be made available to the Corporation.

(iii) The desirability of providing railings along the Elgin Road be considered.

(iv) An area of approximately 23 acres between the Ring Road and the Eastern wall of the Red Fort used by Defence authorities for camping purposes be handed over to the C.P.W.D. for being developed into parks in exchange for other land to be given to the Defence.

(v) The Defence Recruiting Office on Elgin Road be shifted back.