

learned Minister does not know whether in such a serious matter an oral or written protest was made. May I know if the hon. Minister is prepared to find out if a written protest was made, and if not made, will she make sure that a written protest is immediately made?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: We left the matter to the discretion of our Ambassador.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: What? May I know ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you please sit down, Mr. Gupta?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: The matter was brought to the notice of the Ambassador and instructions were given that he should take it up with the State Department, and it was for the Ambassador to take suitable means by which this could be brought to their notice. If you want to know whether a written *aide-memoire* was given I shall find out.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: We do not want to know that.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: In view of the fact that the use of these arms against us involves our defence very seriously and in view of the fact that all in this House are feeling very much concerned about it, will the hon. Minister now say that action will be taken and a protest will be lodged from the highest level to the U.S.A. Government, if necessary from the Prime Minister to the President?

MR. CHAIRMAN: She has said that she will find out.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that immediately after the weapons were got, our Ambassador in Washington was instructed to take up the matter with the U.S.A. Government. She also stated that this happened sometime in the month of September. Now we

are in the middle of December. I would like to know if our Ambassador in Washington has made any report to the Government of India as to what happened between him and the Washington Government, i.e. the U.S.A. Government.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: The Ambassador has informed us that he has taken up the matter with the State Department.

DEFENCE SCIENCE LABORATORY

*438. SHRI J. C. CHATTERJI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Defence Science Laboratory purchased a high altitude photographic equipment which 'never reached the Laboratory;

(b) whether any enquiry has been instituted in the matter; and

(c) if so, what are the findings of the enquiry?

THE MINISTER or DEFENCE PRODUCTION IN THE MINISTRY or DEFENCE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*439. [The questioners (Sarvashri Jagat Narain, Niren Ghosh and M. Basavapunnaiah) were absent. For answer, vide cols. 2849-50 *infra*.]

*440. [The questioner (Shri G. K. Kapoor) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 2850-52 *infra*.]

*441. [The questioners (Sarvashri Niren Ghosh, M. Basavapunnaiah and P. Ramamurti) were absent. For answer, vide col. 2852 *infra*.]

RECRUITMENT OF NAGAS TO ARMY

♦442. SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any recruitment is made to the army from amongst the