

STONING OF INDIAN EMBASSY BUILDING IN RANGOON

*371. SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared in the 'Statesman' of February 13, 1964 wherein it has been stated that the building of the Indian Embassy in Rangoon was stoned by one Pancha Charan for having failed to get a passport to visit India;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made into the delay in issuing the passport; and

(c) what action has been taken against the officials in this connection?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The person who stoned the Indian Embassy building in Rangoon had however applied for an Emergency Certificate to come to India for permanent settlement and not a passport.

(b) The applicant was informed by the Embassy that it would be necessary to make enquiries in India regarding his claim to Indian origin before an Emergency Certificate could be issued to him. He had approached the Embassy on the 4th February, 1964. The incident occurred on the 11th February, 1964. There was thus no undue delay in considering the request of the applicant.

(c) Does not arise.

MODIFIED SCALE OF PAY FOR STENOGRAPHERS IN A.F.H.Q.

*372. DR. GOPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 77 in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th November, 1963 and state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the question of

introducing the modified scale of pay for Stenographers working in the Armed Forces Headquarters;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons for the delay and by what time a decision is likely to be taken?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) to (c): The question of protecting the interests of individuals who would be adversely affected by the introduction of the modified scale of pay of Rs. 210-10-270-15-300-EB-15-450-EB-20-530 with retrospective effect from 1st July, 1959 in Armed Forces Headquarters (including Inter-Service Organisations) is under examination. The matter is expected to be finalised shortly after which orders extending the modified scale to Stenographers and others in Armed Forces Headquarters (including Inter-Service Organisations) will be issued.

ACTIVITIES OF INDIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER IN CEYLON

*373. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that allegations have been made against the Indian High Commissioner in Ceylon to the effect that he had been 'rapped on the knuckles' by the Government of Ceylon for his activities during the recent visit of President Ayub Khan; and

(b) what steps Government of India have taken to counteract this sort of propaganda?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) A report to that effect appeared in one of the newspapers of Ceylon.

(b) The Indian High Commission in Ceylon immediately refuted the allegations in an interview to the press. Subsequently, the Government of Ceylon also issued a Press Communication contradicting the report. These