

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SHAM NATH):

(a) A common fleet of 10 vehicles is maintained by the News Services Division for bringing the staff artists and essential staff of News Services Division and External Services Division from residence to office and back during odd hours, and also for their second and subsequent visits to office, if any, during normal office hours.

(b) The average annual expenditure on the common pool of vehicles for News Services Division and External Services Division is Rs. 1,45,200. No separate figures of expenditure for the News Services Division alone are available.

SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY: May I know, Sir, whether there are Government quarters near the Radio Station for these men and, if so, who are the occupants?

SHRI SHAM NATH: There are no Government quarters near the place of duty. And generally to staff artists and members of essential staff who live at a distance of three and half miles or more, transport facilities are provided

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: May I know if the hon. Minister has got some complaints from persons, who are working in the News Services Division and who are actually entitled to use this transport, that they do not get transport in time and, also, some persons who are not entitled are getting transport and, if so, what action has been taken?

SHRI SHAM NATH: I am not aware of any such complaint.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: What is the reply, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is not aware of any such complaint.

श्री गृहदेव गुप्त : क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूँ कि आल इंडिया रेडियो का न्यूज़ सर्विस डिवीजन भी समाचार संग्रह करने के लिये प्रेस ट्रस्ट आफ इंडिया की तरह से अपना गठन किये हुए है या वह राष्ट्रीय महत्व के समाचारों के लिये पी० टी० आई० पर निर्भर करता है और केवल विशेष महत्व के समाचार ही अपने डिवीजन के द्वारा संग्रह करता है ?

श्री सत्य नारायण सिंह : जेनरली, पी० टी० आई० के द्वारा भी बहुत से काम होते हैं लेकिन हमारे अपने भी करेस्पॉण्डेंट्स हैं जैसे कि पार्लियामेंट में दोनों जगह, दोनों हाउसेस में हमारे अपने करेस्पॉण्डेंट्स रहते हैं। पी० टी० आई० से जो खबरें आती हैं वे भी रहती हैं, वे भी इस में मदद करते हैं।

MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE CEYLON WORKERS' CONGRESS WITH P.M.

*165 { DR. A. SUBBA RAO:
SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR:†

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. S. Thondaman, President of the Ceylon Workers' Congress, recently met the Prime Minister; and

(b) if so, what were the main points of discussion with him?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The discussion was mainly about the citizenship rights of the Stateless persons of Indian origin in Ceylon.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: May I know, Sir, whether the Government of India has sent any communication

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Chandra Shekhar.

to the Government of Ceylon in this connection and, if so, what is the reply of the Ceylon Government?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: This is a private discussion, discussion by the representative of the Ceylon Workers' Congress and on that we have not sent any reply to the Government of Ceylon.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: May I add something, Sir? We have not sent any communication to the workers' representative, but we have, of course, been in correspondence with the Ceylon Government on the subject and I have suggested that the Prime Minister of Ceylon might visit Delhi to discuss these matters further.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: The President of the Ceylon Workers' Congress, after his return from Delhi, issued a statement there at Colombo saying that the attitude of the Indian Government was very helpful in the matter. May I know from the Government of India what is the attitude of the Ceylon Government, whether they have received any reply to the communication of the Prime Minister or not? The Prime Minister has said that he has been in correspondence with them. Has any reply been received from the Prime Minister of Ceylon?

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the response—he asks.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: As I have said, we have been in correspondence with them. I sent a letter to the Prime Minister of Ceylon some time back, two or three months ago, to which I got a detailed reply. And as there was considerable difference of opinion, I suggested that she might take the trouble to come here as our guest and that we could discuss it further.

SHRI A. D. MANI: As there are conflicting estimates about the number of Stateless persons in Ceylon, would

Government tell us what the estimate of Mr. Thondaman was regarding Stateless persons of Indian origin?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: A little over 7 lakhs.

EQUITABLE REPRESENTATION ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

*166. SHRI N. C. KASLIWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a move on the part of several Afro-Asian countries to get the question of equitable representation on the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council included in the agenda of the current session of the United Nations General Assembly; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction to this move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India are in favour of increased representation of Asian and African countries on these bodies in view of the large increase in the membership of these countries in the United Nations. The current session of the General Assembly has inscribed a relevant item on the agenda at the request of a large number of members including India.

SHRI N. C. KASLIWAL: May I know whether the Government have received any indication from the Latin American bloc, owing to their attitude to this question, because if an equitable representation on the Security Council is to come about it is likely that they will lose one seat?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI N. MENON: There are two methods by which this can be done. One is by redistribution of the existing seats and the other is