

PROF. N. R. MALKANI: You are aware that there are other claims and other categories. When do you think that their claims will be taken into consideration?

SHRI J. K. BHONSLE: When the first priority cases are finished, Sir.

PULLING DOWN OF INDIAN NATIONAL FLAG IN PONDICHERRY

*501. SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report about the pulling down and trampling of the Indian National flag recently in Pondicherry; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in the matter?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Yes.

(b) The Consul General of India, Pondicherry, has strongly protested to the Commissioner of the Republic, Pondicherry, against the pulling down and trampling of Indian National flags by the French police on various occasions.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: May I know, Sir, whether there are any other instances of this type that have taken place?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: There are quite a number of instances that have been reported.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: What are those instances, Sir?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The same, tearing down the flags and trampling on them.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Have there been any instances in which Indians have been shot at in the Indian territory by the French Police?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I have no information.

SHRI B. GUPTA: May I know what were the reactions of the French Government to the protest lodged by the Indian Consular authorities there?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: We have no information, Sir.

HYDROGEN BOMB

*502. SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have asked the United Nations Organisation for more information about the effects of the explosions of the Hydrogen Bomb; and

(b) if so, whether any reply has been received from the United Nations Organisation?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Under instructions from the Government of India, the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations addressed a communication to the Secretary-General asking him to place before the Disarmament Commission and its Special Sub-Committee the views of the Government of India on the Hydrogen Bomb contained in a statement made by the Prime Minister in the House of the People on the 2nd April, 1954. One of the steps suggested in that statement was "full publicity by those principally concerned in the production of these weapons and by the United Nations of the extent of destructive power and known effects of these weapons, and also adequate indication of the extent of unknown but probable effects."

(b) No reply is expected from the Secretary-General of the United Nations as the appeal was intended for the consideration of the United Nations Disarmament Commission, which is now in Session.

A sub-committee of the Commission consisting of Canada, France, U.S.S.R., the U.K. and the U.S.A. is