

and will be guided in this matter by the advice of its legal advisers.

EXPORT OF MILITARY STORES

*704. SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a licence was issued to the S. C. K. (Agencies) Limited or Sir James Marshall Cornwall and Partners Limited for the export of weapons or ammunition or military stores from India some time ago;

(b) if so, when the licence was issued and the reasons for issuing it in favour of either of the above mentioned firms; and

(c) what was the material allowed to be exported, its value and the country to which it was exported?

THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE ORGANIZATION (SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI): (a) to (c). Export of one item of small arms ammunition was sanctioned by the Government of India through Sir James Marshall Cornwall & Partners Limited in 1951 for and on behalf of a foreign Government. The licence was issued in favour of this firm as the Government of India was informed that it was acting as the agent of the Foreign Government for whom the ammunition was released. No general licence of any kind was issued to this firm.

It is not in the public interest to reveal details of either the nature or the value of the ammunition allowed to be exported or its destination.

UNIFORM CIVIL CODE

*705. SHRI RAJAGOPAL NADIU: Will the Minister for LAW be pleased to state what steps are being taken by Government to have a uniform Civil Code throughout the territory of India as required under the Directive Principles of State Policy contained in the Constitution of India?

THE MINISTER FOR LAW AND MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI C. C. BISWAS): No proposal to introduce a uniform Civil Code (in the sense of a uniform code of personal Law) throughout the territory of India is under consideration at present.

ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND

*706. MUNSHI ARMAN ALI: Will the Minister for STATES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been made by a Member of Parliament to the effect that some agricultural lands belonging to the tribal people have forcibly been taken possession of by the Rehabilitation Officer in Tripura in Taliamara and Charilam; and

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

THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS AND STATES (SHRI K. N. KATJU): (a) We have received a telegram from a Member of Parliament on this point. It is, however, not a fact that Rehabilitation Officers forcibly took possession of lands belonging to tribal people. Some refugees have been rehabilitated in Government *Khas* and a small area of adjoining fallow and uncultivated 'Jote' lands with the owners' express consent and co-operation.

(b) Does not arise.

WOMEN IN THE ARMED FORCES

*707. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state the number of women at present serving in the Armed Forces?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA): The number of women serving the Armed forces in uniform is 427.