

hon. Member puts a separate question. I will certainly be glad to answer it.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY The hon. Minister, Sir, may give an idea of what it is. I do not know the rules.

DR. B V KESKAR I said that he gets certain facilities in the matter of getting information from the various Ministries of the Government of India and it is not possible for me to enumerate the facilities.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY I quite concede that, Sir. May I know how many accredited representatives to the headquarters of the Government of India are there?

DR. B V KESKAR I am afraid, I would not be able to give the exact number. The number is more than 120 at present.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY May I know, Sir, if the representatives accredited to the State Governments can become accredited to the headquarters of the Central Government?

DR. B. V. KESKAR Provided they stay in Delhi.

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN Inasmuch as the press representatives in the various State capitals are doing the same work as accredited correspondents here, why should not this concession be extended to them also? What is the reason that they are not given this concession and it is only given in Delhi?

DR. B. V. KESKAR Sir, there is no ban on representatives accredited to State Governments being given any such concession. The question is, first of all a number of State Governments do not have accreditation system as we have here. Secondly, it is a question between the State Governments and the Railway Ministry, because the concessions are not given by us. We recommend to the Railway Ministry and, probably the State Governments can arrange it with the Railway Ministry.

INVITATION TO PAKISTAN TO JOIN MIDDLE EAST DEFENCE ORGANISATION

*133. **SHRI GOVINDA REDDY**: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan has been invited to be a member of the Middle East Defence Organisation;

(b) whether the Government of India were consulted in the matter; and

(c) whether the Government of India were invited to join that organisation?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU): (a) The Government of India have no information except what appears in the public press from time to time.

(b) No.

(c) No.

ARMED CONFLICT BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

*134. **SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU**: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the editorial which appeared in the *Dawn* during December 1952 as to the inevitability of armed conflict between India and Pakistan in unambiguous terms;

(b) whether Government have protested to the Government of Pakistan on this issue; and

(c) if so, what reply the Government of Pakistan have sent to the Government of India?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU): (a) Yes

(b) The Government of India drew the attention of the Government of Pakistan to this matter and expressed