

against the move of shifting the administrative office; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken on that?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). A proposal to shift Lakshadweep Branch Secretariat from Calicut to Cochin on certain grounds has been received from the Administrator, Lakshadweep and is under consideration of the Government. The main ground pressed for consideration by the administrator, Lakshadweep in this regard is that the office will serve its purposes better at Cochin because there now exists an all-weather communication to Lakshadweep from Cochin and the bulk of trade and passenger traffic of Lakshadweep with the mainland is through the port of Cochin rather than Calicut which is only a fair weather port. The Administrator has stressed that there was, no doubt, some justification to have this office in Calicut immediately after the shifting of the main Secretariat from Calicut to Kavaratti in view of certain traditional trade links with Calicut but the need and justification no longer exists as these links have grown very weak.

(c) Government have received a number of representations mostly from the employees opposing the shift.

(d) The decision on the proposal has been deferred pending detailed consideration of various aspects of the matter.

#### Shortage of electricity in North Bengal

2117. SHRI K. N. DASGUPTA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of power in North Bengal as the available resources are not adequate to meet even the present demand resulting in load shedding everyday throughout the year;

(b) whether inter-State line between North Bengal and Assam completed more than 5 years back is lying idle since its completion and there is no possibility of getting power through that line in the near future;

(c) whether North Bengal is getting power through the inter-State line between North Bengal and Bihar to the tune of 5 MW only when the receiving arrangement at Siliguri is for 20 MW and this meagre supply is also erratic specially during peak load hours almost daily; and

(d) total amount spent for construction of these two inter-State lines?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The present availability of power in North Bengal just balances the load demand in that area. However, on days when there is shortfall in generation, load shedding is resorted to during peak load hours.

(b) Inter-State transmission line between North Bengal and Assam was completed recently. Negotiations are in progress with Assam and Meghalaya for exchange of power through the line.

(c) As per present understanding, Bihar State Electricity Board is to supply 10 MW power at Dalkhola Sub-Station. This supply is limited to 3—5 MW during peak load hours.

(d) Total amount spent over the two inter-State transmission lines is Rs. 290.46 lakhs.

#### उत्तर प्रदेश में सुप्रा हत्याकाण्ड

2118. श्री हस्मोबिन्द वर्मा: क्या गृह मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि ।

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार उत्तर प्रदेश में सुप्रा हत्याकाण्ड की निष्पक्ष जांच व राना चाहती है; और