

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) to (c). As stated on several occasions, the Government of India have an open mind on the question and will consider sending an Ambassador to China at an appropriate time

Purchase of Submarines for Indian Navy

572. SHRI S. N. MISRA. Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal which was under consideration of the Government to purchase Submarines for the Indian Navy has since been finalised; and

(b) if so, the country from which the Submarines will be purchased and the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH): (a) The Indian Navy has already a fleet of Submarines. The question of further development of our Submarine Arm, both by purchase from abroad and through indigenous construction is receiving constant attention of the Government.

(b) It will not be in the public interest to disclose further detail.

Expenditure on Indian Missions Abroad

573. SHRI S. N. MISRA. Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expenditure of the Indian Embassies/Missions has considerably increased during the last three years;

(b) what is the expenditure incurred on Indian Embassies/Missions all over the world during the last three years, year-wise and Embassy-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to reduce the expenditure?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS). (a) The expenditure during 1972-73 was less than that for 1971-72 (Rs. 31.43 lakhs) due to closing down of Missions in Pakistan (Rs. 35.18 lacs) and reorganisation of the High Commission, London (Rs. 25.82 lacs) partly off-set by excess expenditure on setting up of the High Commission in Dacca (Rs. 25.40 lacs). However, the expenditure during 1973-74 as compared to that for 1971-72 registered an increase (Rs. 50.36 lacs) due to:

- (i) opening of new Missions at Bogota, Abu Dhabi, Panama and Qatar (Rs 24.48 lacs),
- (ii) upgradation of the Consulates at Hanoi, Muscat and Bahrain to Embassies (Rs. 10.59 lacs), and
- (iii) a consequence of international monetary crisis and inflation, the need for upward revision of salaries of local staff, house rent and Foreign Allowance (Rs 15.35 Lacs).

(b) A statement is placed on the table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-74].

(c) Keeping in view the requirement of the functional efficiency of Missions, the Ministry have maintained continues efforts to economise on expenditure and to rationalise the staffing pattern on the basis of work studies and inspection missions. Despite worldwide phenomena of inflation the outlay on our missions abroad must by any standards be considered economical.

Setting up of a Steering Committee for Development of Paradip Port

574. SHRI S. N. MISRA. Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a Steering Committee for the development of Paradip port;

(b) if so, the composition of the Committee; and

(c) the terms of reference of the Committee and the time by which the Committee will submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI): (a) to (c). Although no Steering Committee as such has been formed, it has been decided to hold inter-Ministerial meetings in the Ministry of Shipping and Transport to discuss matters relating to Paradeep Port. The first meeting was held on 8-11-74 and it was attended by representatives of Ministries of Finance, Railways, Department of Mines, MMTTC, Government of Orissa and the Port Trust. Such meetings will be held as often as necessary to discuss and suggest solutions to the problems standing in the ways of development of Paradip Port.

Renaming of Willingdon and Irwin Hospitals of Delhi After Martyrs

575. **SHRI RAJDEO SINGH:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Irwin hospital in the Capital has been named after Viceroy Lord Irwin in whose time the Indian Martyr Sardar Bhagat Singh was hanged and cut to pieces;

(b) whether it will not be most appropriate that this Hospital be named after Sardar Bhagat Singh; and

(c) whether the Willingdon hospital named after Viceroy Willingdon is proposed to be named after a Delhi Martyr?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. 'SHAQUE): (a) to (c). The Irwin Hospital and the Willingdon Hospital were named after Lord Irwin and Lord Willingdon respectively. There is no proposal to rename them.

Indian Stand on Nuclear Technology

576. **SHRI RAJDEO SINGH:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) which are the countries who subscribe to the views of Government of India's stand on Nuclear Technology regarding the right of all nations to acquire nuclear technology; and

(b) whether these countries accept the importance of harnessing nuclear energy for economic development and human welfare and that access to the benefits of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes should not remain confined to a few countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) and (b). There is broad agreement, particularly among developing countries, regarding the importance of harnessing nuclear energy for economic development and human welfare and all benefits of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes not remaining confined to a few countries.

Building of Multi-Purpose Bulk Carrier-Cum-Cargo Liner

577. **SHRI RAJDEO SINGH:** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a keel for a 21,600 tonne D. W. T. multipurpose bulk carrier-cum-cargo liner has been recently laid at the Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam; and

(b) whether this class of liner can be built in other shipyards or Hindustan Shipyard at Gardenreach, Calcutta and Mazagon in Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI): (a) Yes, Sir. The keel for the ship was laid on 26-6-1974.

(b) Among other Shipyards only Garden Reach Workshops, Calcutta, is capable of building this type of ship.