

(c) if so, the nature of the support and the steps taken by Government to meet the situation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs and Minister of Defence Supplies in the Ministry of Defence (Shri Hathi): (a) Mizo Hills District has remained under civil control throughout. Peace has been restored in most of the areas. The MNF have, however, stepped up their activities recently and some clashes with the Police and the Army have taken place.

(b) While Mizo rebels have received assistance from Pakistan, Government are not aware of any support from China.

(c) The MNF volunteers went to Pakistan in March, 1966, to seek both refuge and aid. They have been going to Pakistan for undergoing training and for bringing arms. Protests have been lodged with the Pakistan High Commission against the supply to the MNF of arms and equipment and other facilities.

Government Officials captured by Mizo Rebels

307. **Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:**
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Nath Pai:
Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri R. Barua:
Shri N. R. Laskar:
Shri Liladhar Kotoki:
Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:
Shri Gokulananda Mohanty:
Shrimati Renuka Barkataki:
Dr. M. S. Aney:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently Mizo rebels freed the Government Officials captured by them during the rebellion from "somewhere in Pakistan";

(b) if so, the number of Officers released and whether anybody is left behind or "missing"; and

(c) whether Government have been able to get any information about the future strategy of the Mizo rebels from the released Officers and if so, the nature thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs and Minister of Defence Supplies in the Ministry of Defence (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Fifty-six officials have so far been released by the Mizo rebels and twenty two officials are still missing.

(c) It will not be in public interest to disclose the information.

Exchange of Half-burnt currency notes by Mizos

308. **Shri Surendranath Dwivedi:**
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
Shri Nath Pai:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the 12th May, 1966 some Mizos came to the Reserve Bank of India at Gauhati with bundles of half-burnt currency notes for exchange;

(b) if so, the amount involved; and

(c) the reasons why the Police at Gauhati was not informed by the Bank authorities and thus the Mizos were allowed to escape?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs and Minister of Defence Supplies in the Ministry of Defence (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Notes of the value of rupees seven hundred and fifty were exchanged.

(c) These half-burnt Government Currency Notes belonged to M/s. Pachhunga and Sons of Aijal Bazar and were reportedly burnt in March, 1966 due to MNF action. As the notes were genuine, the Agent Reserve Bank of India, Gauhati, did not think it necessary to inform the police. The police, however, interrogated the persons involved. The