

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Embassy in Washington was burgled on 3rd March, 1970;

(b) If so, whether any enquiry has been conducted to ascertain whether some secret documents have been stolen; and

(c) If not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) to (c) . No, Sir. However, the Information Service of India office, located in a room in the National Press Building about four miles from the main Chancery, was burgled on the night of March 1, 1970. During that night, several other local offices which are also located in the same building, were broken into. Our Embassy has confirmed that nothing was stolen. Most of the documents in the I.S.I. are non-classified and the room in which the security cabinets containing a few Confidential papers are kept, was not tampered with. The State Department has been requested to take suitable measures to prevent recurrence of such incidents.

The local Police are making enquiries.

Extension of Time for Citizenship Applications for Persons of Indian Origin in Ceylon

4090. SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ceylon Workers Congress has called upon the Indian Government to extend the deadline of April 30 next for applications for citizenship by 10 lakhs persons of Indian origin in Ceylon; and

(b) If so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The Ceylon Workers Congress forwarded to the Acting High Commissioner for India in Ceylon a copy of a resolution dated the 28th February 1970, which *inter alia* calls upon the Governments of Ceylon and India to ex-

tend the closing date for applications for citizenship.

(b) The Acting High Commissioner of India in Ceylon has intimated the Ceylon Workers Congress that it is not the intention of the Government of India to extend the present deadline of 30th April 1970.

Suggestion to make Commonwealth more Meaningful

4091. SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has given a suggestion to the Secretary General of the Commonwealth Secretariat Mr. Smith that political and economic content of the Commonwealth must become more meaningful and purposeful if it had to survive;

(b) what other suggestions were made by the Minister for betterment of Commonwealth; and

(c) the reaction of Mr. Smith thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Discussions with Mr. Arnold Smith were of a general nature, and did not concern any specific projects.

(c) Does not arise.

East Pakistan-West Bengal Border Demarcation

4092. SHRI YASHPAL SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn towards the allegation in *Pakistan Times* that India is responsible for delay in the demarcation of Mahananda, Burang and Karatola sectors on West Bengal-East Pakistan border; and

(b) if so, his reaction thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) On 10.2.1970, the *Pakistan Times* quoting