

coming Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) and (b): No decision has yet been taken in the matter.

Pak. Pressure on U.S.S.R. to Stop Arms Aid to India

***314. Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:
Shrimati Renuka Barkataki:**

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan is putting pressure on U.S.S.R. to stop arms aid to India; and

(b) if so, the reaction of U.S.S.R. Government thereto?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) There is no arms aid by the Soviet Union to India.

(b) Does not arise.

Zambian Prime Minister's Suggestion about Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference

***315. Shri Kapur Singh:
Shri Buta Singh:
Shrimati Renuka Barkataki:**

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Zambian Prime Minister has suggested that the next Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference should be convened in India;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard;

(c) whether any official communication has been received from the Zambian Government to this effect; and

(d) whether this proposal has been considered by the Commonwealth Secretariat and other countries, and their reactions, if any, in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government of India informed the Prime Minister of Zambia that we would be glad to play host to the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference if the majority of the members of the Commonwealth agree to its being held in New Delhi.

(d) Yes, Sir. On June 28th the Commonwealth Secretary General informed us that although "several Prime Ministers welcome the proposal for having the meeting in New Delhi, the consensus favoured London for this occasion".

Chinese Threat to Bhutan

***316. Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:**

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item in the 'Searchlight', Patna, dated the 8th May, 1966 under the heading 'Chinese threat to Bhutan grow's'; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India are alive to the Chinese threat. As mentioned in the news-item, Bhutan's relations with India are extremely friendly and cooperative, and we are giving necessary help and assistance to Bhutan by mutual agreement.

Defence Plan

***317. Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether reassessment of defence requirements in the light of China's growing nuclear capability is being made; and