

what is the decision and why?

**SHRI DINESH SINGH:** We have already informed this House that the Government has not acceded to the request of Pakistan Government to lease the Jinnah House to them.

**SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR:** Mr. Speaker, Press reports indicate that there has been some deterioration in the relations between Pakistan and India. What has been the reaction of the Government of India to the invitation of the Pakistan Government to the hon. Home Minister and is it a fact that the Pakistan Prime Minister wrote a letter to the Prime Minister of India that they should discuss matters without any pre-conditions? It is being reported by Pakistan Press that it was the Government of India which put conditions for re-starting the negotiations. This should be cleared so that an atmosphere is created that it is India but the other side which is creating difficulties for mutual negotiations.

**SHRI DINESH SINGH:** I should like to thank the hon. Member for given me this opportunity to clear the position. I should like to say quite categorically that we have no pre-conditions for any discussion with Pakistan. What was suggested to them was that if they would like to have a bilateral talk with us, then they should try to create a climate in which a bilateral discussion would be more meaningful. But there is no pre condition as such.

Regarding the invitation to the Home Minister, we have been informed by the Pakistan High Commissioner that there is an invitation to the Home Minister. It is under his consideration.

**SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:** The Governments of India and Pakistan have now reduced their staff in the consular Missions in their respective jurisdiction. Now the hon. Minister has focused on the difficulties faced by the Pakistan national in getting visas to come to India. Well, that is very gracious of him. But I think it is more essential for the hon. Minister to focus on the

difficulties of Indian nationals in getting visas from the reduced Pakistani Mission in Delhi. At a time when roughly a thousand visas were being issued every day, now there is a long queue and people are getting visa in dribs and drabs. Surely, it is the duty of the Government of India to pursue these difficulties of the Indian nationals with the Government of Pakistan and on that basis to reopen the question that the strength of the Consular Missions must be maintained at a level that the applications for visas by Indian nationals in Delhi are proposed expeditiously by the Pakistani Mission.

**SHRI DINESH SINGH:** Of course, Sir, that is what we conveyed to them. But it is not a question only of the strength of the Missions in India and Pakistan. Pakistan is deliberately trying to create difficulties for Indian nationals to get visa to go to Pakistan. A number of issues have been raised by them and conditions placed on Indian citizens was king to get visa to go to Pakistan. They are all towards the same objective of discouraging people to people contact.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Question Hour is over.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

#### Visit of Pussian President

\*81. **SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA  
GAVIT:  
SHRI CHITTA BASU:**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the President of Russia visited India recently;

(b) if so, the details of the issues that figured in his talks with Indian leaders and the outcome of the talks;

(c) whether the issue of Kashmir also figured in these talks;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the broad details of the bilateral agreement/treaty signed and the areas identified for bilateral cooperation in various fields?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KINESH SINGH): (a) Yes Sir. The President of Russia paid an official visit to India from 27th to 29th January 1993.

(b) During the visit several issues of mutual concern were discussed. There was a convergence of views between the two countries on important matters of mutual interest.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) President Yeltsin has stated his views in the Press Conference in New Delhi on 29th January 1993. He stated that India must keep its integrity. Must stay united and undivided. He added that Russia intended to support India in its position on Kashmir.

(e) The following agreements were signed:-

- (i) Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation;
- (ii) Agreement on Rupee Rouble Exchange Rate;
- (iii) Agreement on Defence Cooperation;
- (iv) Protocol on Indo-Russian Consultations;
- (v) Agreement on Cultural Cooperation;
- (vi) Agreement on Information.
- (vii) Agreement on Combating Illicit Traffic in Narcotics;
- (viii) Agreement between Ministry of Home Affairs and Russian Ministry of Security;

(ix) Memorandum of Science & Technology; and

(x) Exchange of Letters on Trade Matters.

### Pilots Strike

82. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVI SINGH PATIL:

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the strike of the Indian Airlines pilots has been called off;

(b) if so, the main demand accepted by the Government;

(c) the duration of the strike and the extent of loss suffered by the Indian Airlines, tourism and hotel industry;

(d) the percentage of pilots who took part in the strike and the total expenditure incurred for obtaining foreign planes and its pilots during the strike;

(e) whether the services of Indian Air Force pilots were also requisitioned during the strike; if so, the details thereof;

(f) the effective steps proposed to be taken to prevent the recurrence of such strikes in future;

(g) whether all the flights operation before the strike have been resumed; and

(h) if no, the time by which these are likely to be restored?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). The strike was called off unconditionally on 24.1.1993.

(c) Cash loss incurred by Indian Airlines during the 46 day strike is estimated to be Rs. 46.60 crores. It is difficult to estimate the extent of loss sustained by the hotel and