

fundamental threat to society and to global social order.

(vii) The provision of financial resources for the implementation of the Programme of Action through trade and international assistance.

(viii) Placing the role of markets in its proper perspective, through a recognition of its shortcomings and the need for Government intervention to both correct the market mechanism as well as to supplement it.

(ix) Acknowledging the negative effects of the Structural Adjustment Programmes and recognising the need to ensure that they include social development goals, when structural adjustment programmes are agreed to.

3. All the above issues put forward by India were accepted by the international community at the World Summit for Social Development and have been reflected in the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted on March 12, 1995. The Declaration contains ten commitments undertaken for the common pursuit of social development, aimed at social justice, solidarity, harmony and equality within and among countries. The commitments pertain to inter-alia, creation of enabling economic, political, social, cultural and legal environment; eradication of poverty; goal of full employment; promotion of social integration; education, health and culture; increasing resources allocated for social development; and improvement of international cooperation to attain these objectives. In the Programme of Action detailed plans have been spelled out, both at the national and international levels, with a view to implementing the above commitments.

4. Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action marks the commencement of the changed international agenda for the construction of a new society. The Summit addressed issues of crucial concern to humanity, in particular the underprivileged. India hopes that the Summit will reinvigorate international cooperation in implementing the far-reaching decisions of the Summit.

[English]

#### **Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty**

\*200. SHRI YELLAIHA NANDI:  
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any efforts are being made to bring India under the combined regime of NPT and Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) and to cap its nuclear programme even for peaceful uses of nuclear energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether there is any change in India's stand in regard to Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI

PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) In bilateral and other fora, there has been no pressure on India to sign the NPT. However the depository states of the NPT (US, UK and Russia) have urged all countries not yet party to the NPT to sign the treaty. Government's principled opposition to the NPT has been reiterated in all relevant bilateral and international fora. Meanwhile, India remains committed to pursuing its extensive nuclear programme which is geared exclusively towards peaceful purposes.

With regard to the MTCR, India maintains its reservations on ad hoc export control regimes like the MTCR and has conveyed its views to the MTCR member countries in official discussions.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) does not arise.

#### **Steel, Ship-Breaking and Casting Unit**

1812. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Metal Scrap Trading Corporation (MSTC) is considering to set up steel, ship-breaking and casting units in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether land have been acquired for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) MSTC Limited has reported that it is considering setting up steel, ship-breaking and casting units in West Bengal. Since these proposals are at a preliminary stage, no land has been acquired.

#### **New Passport Office in North Eastern States**

1813. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passport offices at present functioning in different parts of the country;

(b) the locations of those offices, State-wise;

(c) whether there is any proposal to open more such offices particularly in Eastern and North Eastern States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Passport Offices-23

(b) As per Statement enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The opening of new Passport Offices is based on various parameters including workload and resources available. The opening of new Passport Offices does not itself improve the service until the necessary infrastructure and personnel are available. The government is,