

(SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b). No Sir. However, U.S. Government has expressed its general willingness to sell military equipment to India.

(c) The Government of India has not considered this matter in depth because there are certain conditions to weapons sales that it does not find acceptable.

Pak's Claim on Siachin Glacier Area

378. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan has disputed India's claim on Siachin glacier area as reported in Hindustan Times dated 9 June, 1985:

(b) whether the Government of Pakistan has officially put forward their claim in this regard;

(c) if so, the grounds on which they base their claim; and

(d) Government's reaction in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The Pakistan Government have based their claim on the area stating without any basis, that it forms part of the so-called "Northern Areas".

(d) The Government of India have rejected Pakistan's claim, as the Siachin glacier area is a part of the territory of the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir and has always been under India's administration and control. Indian mountaineering expeditions have been going into the area regularly.

Protests have been lodged with the Pakistan Government on different occasions both in writing and verbally, against the acts of violation of Indian air space in the area by Pakistani aircraft.

Proposal for Change in Office Hours

379. DR. G.S. RAJHANS :
SHRI CHITA MAHATA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of Government to change the office timings in Central Government offices where 9 AM to 5 PM has been fixed;

(b) whether the women employecs have complained and represented to the Government to change their office timings either from 9.30 AM to 5.30 PM or from 10.00AM to 6.00 PM; and

(c) when a final decision is likely to be taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c). In the light of some representations received and points raised in the National Council of JCM, the question of office timings under the five-day-week system is proposed to be discussed in the Standing Committee of the National Council of the JCM soon.

Compensation to Riot Victims

380. DR. C.S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently decided to pay 50 percent of the estimated loss or Rs. 50, 000/- whichever is less to those properties have damaged during the November, 1984 riots ;

(b) the number of parties which submitted their applications in response to Government's decision ;

(c) whether several persons/parties have lost their properties worth crores of rupees ; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to compensate those ?