(b) the main decisions taken; and

(c) the impact it has made on the mutual relationship of the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.C. PANT): (a) wide-ranging discussions took place covering global and regional security issues and other matters of mutual interest and bilateral cooperation.

(b) and (c). The discussions were part of an on-going dialogue and the overall US reaction was positive. This visit is expected to contribute to a better appreciation of India's security concerns and improved understanding between the two countries as well as cooperation in the development and production of defence-related items.

Indo-Pak talks on Slachen Issue

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: 888. SHRI BANWARI LAL PURO-HIT: SHRI ν. SREENIVASA PRASAD: CH. KHURSHID AHMED: SHRI KRISHNA SINGH: SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: SHRI BALWANT SINGH RA-MOOWALIA: SHRI M.V. CHAN-DRASHEKHARA MUR-THY SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: SHRI HET RAM: CHOWDHRY AKHTAR HASAN: SHRI SANAT KUMAR MAN-DAL: PROF. K.V. THOMAS: SHRI PARASRAM BHARD-WAJ: SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY: **DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:**

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: DR. DATTA SAMANT: SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: SHRI HARI HAR SOREN: DR. B.L. SHAILESH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Pakistan have decided to end a long drawn confrontation in the Siachen Glacier area:

(b) if so, whether any agreement has since been signed in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUC-TION SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) At the fifth round of Defence Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan on the Siachen issue, held in Rawalpindi from the 15th to the 17th June, 1989, both sides agreed to work towards a comprehensive settlement of the issue, based on redeployment of forces to reduce the chances of conflict, avoidance of the use of force and the determination of future positions on the ground so as to conform with the Simla Agreement and to ensure durable peace in the Siachen area.

- (b) No, Sır.
- (c) Does not arise.

Pre-examination training centres for SCs & STs

889. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: SHRI PARASRAM BHARD-WAJ:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state: