

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (h). Do not arise.

Repercussions on India Due to Sri Lankan Ethnic Strife

2469. **SHRI B.V. DESAI :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether leader of the Indian delegation has told the U.N. Human Rights Commission which met in Geneva during the month of March that it cannot remain detached in relation to the ethnic strife in Sri Lanka because this has repercussions on India and has most severe social, political and economic burdens;

(b) if so, the reaction of the U.N. Human Rights Commission on this issue; and

(c) the steps Union Government propose or taken so far in this regard ?

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

(b) and (c). The U.N. Human Rights Commission has been discussing the human rights situation in Sri Lanka following ethnic violence in that country.

We have conveyed to the Sri Lankan Government that India's offer of good offices, if required will be available to facilitate a political solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka.

Meal Allowance to Pilots and other Cabin Crew Members of Indian Airlines

2470. **SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any distinction of 'meal allowance' between the pilots and other cabin crew members of the Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the existing practice in Air India and other major International Airlines in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pilots of the Indian Airlines stay in hotels of higher rating as compared to the cabin crew and are entitled, commensurate with their status to a higher meal allowance than the cabin crew.

(c) Air India pilots are also entitled to higher meal allowance than Cabin Crew members. The position obtaining in other International Airlines, however, is not known.

Development Among Developing Countries for South-South Co-operation

2471. **SHRI PRIYA RAJAN DAS MUNSI :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any progress has been made or development taken place in the developing countries towards greater South-South Cooperation;

(b) the specific role to be played by Indian in rail industry and agricultural field for the other countries in South; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes Sir. Considerable progress has been made towards greater South-South co-operation at the bilateral as well as multilateral levels.

(b) and (c). India has been closely associated with efforts towards greater cooperation among developing countries in these fields. At the multilateral level India is actively participating in the implementation of the Nonaligned Action Programme as well as the Caracas Programme of Action of the Group of 77. These activities cover a large number of sectors including industry and agriculture. As Chairman of the Non-aligned Movement