

Minister sent a special message expressing solidarity and support to Chairman Yasser Arafat as well as to the Tunisian Prime Minister. India has also condemned the Israeli attack at various international fora, notably, the United Nations Security Council and International Civil Aviation Organisation.

Meeting of Foreign Ministers of non-aligned countries

2491. SHRI ANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Foreign Ministers meeting of the non-aligned countries held at New York in a special session on October 1, 1985; considered the grave situation created by the recent Israeli attack at PLO's headquarters in Tunisia territory and the attack by South Africa on Angola;

(b) if so, the main observations and suggestions made at the meeting; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir. The meeting strongly condemned Israel for its barbaric and totally unjustified attack on Tunisia in flagrant violation of that country's sovereignty and territorial integrity. The meeting likewise strongly condemned the racist regime of South Africa for its latest aggression against the Peoples Republic of Angola.

(b) The meeting urged the Security Council to meet urgently to deal with the serious threats to peace and security posed by these acts of aggression and renewed the non-aligned countries call for the imposition of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa and Israel under Chapter VII of the UN Charter.

(c) The Government strongly supports the communique which is in line with our traditional policy.

SINO-US deals for strengthening Chinese forces

2492. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the SINO-US deals being negotiated for sale of US arms, equipments and aircraft for strengthening the Chinese Army, Air Force and Naval striking power,

(b) if so, what is Government's information in this regard; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto by way of matching the Defence preparedness with Chinese ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) and (b). Government have seen reports regarding SINO-US negotiations for the sale of weapons and military equipment by the US to China.

(c) Government keep a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on our security and take appropriate measures from time to time ensure full defence preparedness.

Sainik Schools

2493. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) number of Sainik Schools in the country;

(b) number of these Schools in Karnataka;

(c) number of students passing out every year from all these schools;

(d) whether they are given jobs in the armed forces; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to set up more Sainik Schools ?