

supply of arms and training to Indian terrorists and the use of Pakistan territory by them;

(c) whether the Government of the two countries have signed agreements of mutual cooperation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to implement these agreements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARY): (a) Recent discussions between our Prime Minister and the Prime Minister of Pakistan have opened up possibilities for establishment of an improved and mutually beneficial India-Pakistan relationship based on sovereign equality and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

(b) During the Prime Minister's visit to Pakistan, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto assured him of her commitment to the policy of non-interference in our internal affairs.

(c) to (e). During the visit of Prime Minister to Pakistan the following bilateral agreements were signed:

- (1) Agreement on the Prohibition of attack against Nuclear Installations and Facilities,
- (2) Cultural Cooperation Agreement, and
- (3) Agreement on the Avoidance of Double Taxation on Income derived from International air Transport.

Requisite procedural formalities are underway to ensure effective implementation of these agreements.

Diversion of Funds Under NREP in Kerala

267. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of State in the Department of Rural Development had recently made a statement in Kerala that there has been some diversion of funds meant for National Rural Employment Programme and large amount meant for National Rural Employment Programme, Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme for Kerala has been allowed to lapse by the State Government of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Ministry has received a protest and reply from the State Government of Kerala repudiating the statement of the Minister; and

(d) if so, whether the Minister is satisfied with the explanation of the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (d). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Release of POWS In Pakistan

268. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the issue of release of 43 prisoners of war under detention in Pakistan was discussed by the Prime Minister during his recent visit to that country;