

(c) whether this stand of the Pakistan Muslim League would retard the process of normalisation of Indo-Pak relations undertaken recently ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) When India's concern at the resolution was conveyed during the visit of the Foreign Secretary to Pakistan, Pakistan leaders reiterated their adherence to the Simla Agreement. However, the fact cannot be ignored that the resolution was passed by the Pakistan Muslim League at a meeting presided by Prime Minister Mr. Junejo who is also the President of the party.

(c) It has been conveyed to the Pakistan Government that this resolution is a negative factor in our bilateral relations.

Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

1532. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have issued any circular on 26 March, 1982 regarding Ex-post facto application of forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to such development projects which were administratively sanctioned and started by the State Government prior to its enforcement i.e. 25 October, 1986;

(b) if so, whether the Forest (Conservation) Act empowers the Union Government to issue such circular; and

(c) if not, the reasons for contravening the provisions of the Act ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) The circular issued by Government of India on 26th March, 1982 was not in regard to ex-post facto application of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

News Item Captioned "Alleged Export of Kids as Slaves"

1533. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Alleged export of kids as slaves' appeared in the 'Times of India', on 6th February, 1986;

(b) if so, whether any investigation had been ordered into the alleged export of children to West Germany from the Kalahandi famine area in Orissa as 'bonded labourers' under the cover of fake guardianship;

(c) the outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps taken or being taken to stop this racket ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) According to the information received from the State Government of Orissa, which had inquired into the matter, some children, whose mothers had died after delivery or who were abandoned by their unmarried mothers at the Christian Mission Hospital at Khariar, came under care of the mission Hospital. The District Court, under the provisions of Guardians and Wards Act, 1890 granted necessary clearances, and thereafter these children were sent to West Germany for adoption by issueless German families. According to the information furnished by mission hospital to the State Govt. the Indian embassy is keeping in touch with the children who are reported to be happy and well looked after. The State Government of Orissa has also again asked our embassy to verify the condition of the children.

Proposal to Review Cantonment Act.

1534. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had amended Section 21(3) of Defence Cantonment in Cantonment Act 1924 regarding the term of Vice Presidents of Cantonment;

(b) whether it is a fact that as per the latest amendment the term of Vice-President of Cantonment is unstable;

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether Government have any proposal to review the act with suitable amendments since a stable Board is necessary to have a clean administration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Supply of Cyber 205 Super Computers

1535. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the question of supply of Cyber 205 Super computers was discussed by Government at the meeting of the Indo-US joint Commission held recently in Washington; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the US authorities thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) No, Sir. This question was not discussed at the Indo-US Joint Commission meeting held recently in Washington.

(b) Does not arise.

Poverty Line in 1984

1536. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state what is the proposal under

consideration of Government to keep poverty line families protected from the steep hike of prices of essential commodities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : The Public Distribution System is recognised as a permanent feature of the strategy to protect all consumers including poor families from hike in prices of essential commodities. Apart from this, the Government have proposed various measures for the improvement of level of living of those below the poverty line through distribution of foodgrains at concessional prices. These include programmes for distribution of foodgrains, particularly, rice and wheat to the people in the Integrated Tribal Development Projects, for young children, pregnant women and nursing mothers and expansion of the coverage of Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme and National Rural Employment Programme.

All these steps will keep protected the poor families from rise in prices of essential commodities to a considerable extent.

Plan for Social Insurance Scheme for Poor

1537. SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any plan for Social Insurance Scheme for the development of the poorest of the poor community in India; and

(b) if so, details thereof and the amount allocated there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) No, Sir, However, there are

- (i) Personal Accident Insurance Social Security Scheme for Poor Families,
- (ii) Scheme of Comprehensive Policy for Fire and Allied Perils,
- (iii) Hut Insurance Scheme,
- (iv) Composite Package Insurance Scheme, and