

time. However, all possible efforts are made to verify the particulars of Indian detainees as expeditiously as possible and to communicate to Pakistan Government. Similarly, for the repatriation of the Pakistani detainees in India, we have to await verification reports from the Pakistan Government.

India and Non-Proliferation Treaty

431. DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have spelt out the minimum pre-condition for being signatories to the Non-Proliferation Treaty or to "Full Scope" safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna; and

(b) whether these preconditions have been communicated in World forums?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) There has been no change in India's policy of not signing the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), as it is an unequal and discriminatory treaty. As regards the question of full-scope safeguards, the Prime Minister has, in a Press Conference held in New Delhi on 12th January, 1978, stated that once the United States and the Soviet Union, who had the largest arsenals of nuclear weapons, decide not to have explosions of any kind, peaceful or otherwise, and do not add to their arsenals and also come to an agreement to have gradual reduction of their nuclear arsenals with a view to complete destruction of nuclear weapons, India will have no difficulty in accepting full-scope safeguards. Under such conditions, all nuclear facilities will become civilian in nature and the same system of safeguards can be applied to all States without discrimination.

(b) No communication on the question of full-scope safeguards has so far been sent to any World forum.

USA, USSR talks for demilitarisation of Indian Ocean

432. DR. BALDEV PRAKASH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the results of talks between USA and USSR held in Berne recently for demilitarisation of Indian Ocean; and

(b) is it a fact that USA administration has granted additional grants for strengthening the base of Diego Garcia with sophisticated equipment?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) On the eve of the current session of the Berne talks India was informed by both sides that the talks so far had resulted in their differences being narrowed though the two sides had not yet reached complete agreement on various aspects of limitation of their naval presence in the Indian Ocean.

(b) The Government are not aware of any additional authorisation for Diego Garcia beyond \$ 7.3 million authorised in 1977 for fiscal year 1978, out of which it has been reported that \$ 3.3 million, allocated for aircraft maintenance and barracks construction, was subject to a review by the US Administration, of its Indian Ocean policy and an evaluation of its discussion with the USSR on arms control in the Indian Ocean.

Implementation of recommendations of Workers' Education Review Committee

433. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY:

SHRIMATI PARVATHI
KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to refer to the reply given