

ship under the Agreement up to 31-5-1978.

(c) 2,26,827 persons of Indian origin (excluding their natural increase) have been repatriated to India under the Agreement up to 31-5-1978.

(d) and (e). No, Sir, but the two Governments have decided to appoint a high level Committee of officials to review the implementation of the Agreement.

**Statement of Chinese Vice Premier
Re: Kashmir**

753. SHRI JANARDHANA
POOJARY:

SHRI MRITYUNJAY
PERSAD:

SHRI ARJUN SINGH
BHADORIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to statement of Chinese Vice Premier in Karachi and published in Hindustan Times of 21-8-78 'China reiterates Kashmir stand'; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) China has in the past made similar expressions of its stand. On this occasion, the Chinese Ambassador was told that the State of Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India. It had acceded to India long ago and there could be no question of self-determination for a part of our country.

Telecommunication Facilities in Backward Areas

754. SHRI SARAT KAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has recently extended some telecommunication facilities in the 'backward' areas; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the number of districts declared backward under this programme in the State of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEV SAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Nine complete districts and one district in part have been declared as backward in Orissa State for programme.

Seminar on Communicable Diseases

755. SHRI L. L. KAPOOR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the seminar held in Bangalore recently on communicable diseases;

(b) if so, the major recommendations of this seminar; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) Yes, the fourteenth Interstate Plague Surveillance Control Meeting which, besides plague control measures, considered control of some other communicable diseases also was held at Bangalore from the 29th to the 31st May, 1978.

(b) A statement containing the recommendations made by the Committee is attached.

(c) Some of the recommendations have been implemented and the others are under consideration.