

(b) if so, whether he has strongly reiterated that both Pakistan and China should vacate the 'sacred territory' of India; and

(c) if so, the details of India's help assured to the Prime Minister of Vietnam by the Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) During the visit of the Prime Minister of Vietnam, Mr. Pham Van Dong, the Governments of India and Vietnam entered into a credit agreement for Rs. 5 crores to be used by Vietnam to import from India rolling stock, components and spare parts for textile machinery and other light industries as well as equipment and material for power industries and other goods mutually agreed upon.

A Memorandum on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the two countries was signed during the visit.

Besides, a Cultural Exchange Programme for 1980 and 1981 was entered into between the two countries on that occasion.

Recasting of IIT Training Scheme

2098. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to recast the training scheme being imparted in Indian Technical Institutes in the country at present; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Committee of Experts on Training was appointed by the Government of India, Ministry of Labour to

examine in depth the quality of training imparted to apprentices in various establishments and to trainees in Industrial Training Institutes and suggest remedial measures. The Committee submitted its report on 25-9-78.

This Committee, vide one of its recommendations, has observed that the existing training pattern, both for Craftsmen as well as Apprenticeship Training is a standardised one and does not admit flexibility required for need based training in local areas. To meet this end, the Committee has recommended that the basic training at the institutions should be one year broad-based training, common for a group of similar trades. After completing the basic training, the trainees would have the option to go in for specialised training on modular basis at the institutions, in accordance with their aptitude and needs of the local industry. The trainees would also have the choice to go in for Apprenticeship Training in the industry for the residual period. Persons desirous of self-employment could go in for that after undergoing entrepreneurship module. The revised scheme aims at increasing the flexibility of the vocational Training System by making it more need-based and acceptable to the users. The recommendations of the Committee of Experts are at present under the consideration of Government of India.

Confederation of Pakistan and Bangladesh

2099. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pakistan President, General Zia-ul-Haq, has revived the plan of a Bangladesh-Pakistan Confederation; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b). Government have