

international forum. References are made to relevant United Nations resolutions on the subject, quite oblivious of the fact that these resolutions have become irrelevant because of the action of Pakistan itself. In the face of such references, I am constrained to wonder whether Pakistan's adherence to the Simla Agreement has undergone a change. There is a clear contradiction between the expressed desire of Pakistan to normalize relations with India in accordance with the Simla Agreement and its pronouncements in various forums which attempt to set the clock back. India's stand, on the other hand, has remained constant, and we continue to be prepared to settle all matters with Pakistan through bilateral channels".

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) and (g). It has been conveyed to Pakistan on several occasions that their references to Kashmir in international fora are not in conformity with our understanding of the Simla Agreement and will not help in creating a better atmosphere. The position of the Government of India in regard to Kashmir is well-known, namely, that the State of Jammu and Kashmir is legally and constitutionally an integral part of India. Government have taken and will continue to take all necessary steps to counter Pakistan's propaganda.

Faster clearance of Emigrants

510. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI SHIV KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken several measures for faster clearance of emigrants;

(b) if so, the details of the measures taken;

(c) the extent to which they have proved helpful;

(d) whether any fresh concessions are being considered; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library See No. LT-1361/80]

(c) The new system has the following advantages:—

(i) Persons who do not fall under the purview of the Emigration Act, 1922, are now given permanent clearance from emigration checks on their passports themselves and do not have to undergo checking everytime they go out;

(ii) Emigrants will now know in advance about the requirement of obtaining emigration clearance and thus avoid the risk of being turned back at the last minute from the airport;

(iii) The new system has relieved congestion at the airports and seaports; and

(iv) Returning and transiting passengers are now allowed to proceed abroad freely without any emigration formality.

(d) and (e). Emigration procedures are under constant review and are modified from time to time according to the requirements. No new measures are contemplated at present.