

Ocean as a Zone of Peace was considered at the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries held in New Delhi from February 9 to 13, 1981.

(b) The New Delhi Declaration adopted at the Conference on February 13, contains the following formulation on the Indian Ocean, which was approved by consensus after discussion:

"The Ministers expressed grave concern over the growing build up of Great Power military presence in the Indian Ocean area. The Ministers noted that despite the expressed wishes of the littoral and hinterland States of the Indian Ocean, military activity in all forms and manifestations of the Great Powers in the Indian Ocean area had intensified and that there had been a marked deterioration in the climate of peace and security in the area. They further noted that the concept of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, as contained in the 1971 United Nations Declaration (United Nations Resolution 2832 of 16th December, 1971) and as considered at the meeting of the littoral and hinterland States of July 1979 as well as at the meetings of the *Ad hoc* Committee on the Indian Ocean, was being systematically nullified by this escalation of military preparations by the Great Powers. The Ministers, seriously concerned at the dangerous tension in the area brought about by the expansion of existing foreign bases, military installations, logistical supply facilities, the disposition of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction as well as the search for new base facilities, warned of the dangers of any actions that would provide pretexts for the intervention or the presence of the Great Powers in the area. They also reaffirmed their determination to work for the success of the Conference on Indian Ocean, scheduled to be held in Sri Lanka in 1981, to achieve the objectives of the concept of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace and to

this end urged all Great Powers and other major maritime users to participate in the Conference in a constructive spirit, and to start a process of reducing their military presence in the Indian Ocean area meanwhile.

In this connection, the Ministers welcomed, in principle, the initiative of the President of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar to convene a Summit Conference in Antananarivo (Madagascar) and requested the Government of Madagascar to elaborate further on the proposal for its detailed consideration."

### दीघा घाट पर रेलवे पुल

522. श्री चन्द्रदेव प्रसाद वर्मा :

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री :

क्या रेल मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि पटना के निकट दीघा घाट पर एक रेल पुल का निर्माण करने में विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं ?

रेल मंत्रालय तथा संसदीय कार्य विभाग में उपमन्त्री (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन) : केन्द्रीय जल एवं बिजली स्टेशन, पुणे ने पुल के स्थल की उपयुक्तता का निर्धारण करने के उद्देश्य से नमूना परीक्षण किये हैं। यह पाया गया है कि पुल का निर्माण करने के फलस्वरूप रतना बँक के साथ नदी के बहाव का बेग बढ़ जाता है जिससे पटना बँक और पटना सिटी की संरक्षा को खतरा पैदा हो सकता है। अतः, इसकी आगे छानबीन करना आवश्यक है और केन्द्रीय जल एवं बिजली स्टेशन, पुणे इस बात की नमूना परीक्षण कर रहा है कि पुल का निर्माण करने के दुरे प्रभावों को कैसे कम किया जा सकता है। जैसे ही केन्द्रीय जल एवं बिजली स्टेशन, पुणे से अन्तिम रिपोर्ट प्राप्त होगी वैसे ही पुल का निर्माण करने के सम्बन्ध में अन्तिम निर्णय लिया जाएगा।