

**Keeping outer space free of weapons**

3858. SHRI K. MALLANNA:  
SHRI MADHAVRAO  
SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that USSR is in favour of seeking the assistance of U.N. for a complete ban on all weapons in outer space including any that could be carried aloft by the U.S. space shuttle;

(b) if so, whether any indication has also been obtained in this regard from the U.N. Secretary-General for this purpose;

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(d) what is the reaction of the Government in regard thereto, especially in so far as India's security and space interests, are concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) to (c) At the 36th regular session of the UN General Assembly held in New York in 1981, the Soviet Union had put forward a proposal for the "prohibition of the stationing of weapons of any kind in outer space" and had also tabled a draft treaty in that regard. Under the Soviet draft treaty, States parties would *inter-alia* "undertake not to place in orbit around the earth objects carrying weapons of any kind, install such weapons on celestial bodies, or station such weapons in outer space in any other manner, including on reusable manned space vehicles of an existing type or of other types which States Parties may develop in the future".

(d) Consistent with India's commitment to general and complete disarmament under effective international control, India has always been in favour of the use of outer space for peaceful purposes and for the prevention of an arms race in outer space.

Consequently, India has supported the Soviet proposal. However, India is in favour of prohibiting the testing of all weapons in space, in addition to the prohibition on their being placed in or installed on celestial bodies or stationed in outer space in any other manner.

**New Technical Colleges**

3854. DR. R. ROTHUAMA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) number of Technical Institutes/Colleges like Overseer Training Institutes/Polytechnics/Engineering Colleges/Industrial Training Institutes/Veterinary Colleges/Forest Colleges/Forest Training Institutes/Science Colleges in the State/Union Territories of Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura and Meghalaya; and

(b) proposals, if any, for starting more Technical Colleges in these States/Union Territories and if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI P. K. THUNGNON): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) There is a proposal by the North Eastern Council to set up a Regional Institute of Science and Technology for the North Eastern Region. The details of the same are at present being worked out by a Working Group set up for the purpose.

**Admission in Central Schools**

3855. SHRI NIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the criteria regarding admission in Central Schools in Delhi/New Delhi;