

Peace in West Asia

861. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA;

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the agreement signed in the middle of May, 1983 between Lebanese and Israeli Government's to prevent re-entry of Palestinian fighters to Southern Lebanon;

(b) if so, what is the Government's assessment about the outcome thereof and its impact on World peace, especially the peace in West Asia;

(c) whether any efforts have been made by Government to provide and authority for direct talks between USA and the PLO with a view to establishing peace in West Asia; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) The Government of India took immediate note of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement signed on May 17, 1983.

(b) The developing situation in West Asia is being closely watched by the Government.

(c) and (d) In connection with what role India is required to play, the Government of India has been in close touch with some West Asian countries, the PLO Chairman, members of the Non-aligned Movement, as well as other world leaders and governments, particularly the United States, directly and through diplomatic channels. Shri Romesh Bhandari, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has visited Syria, Libya and Tunisia, and is presently visiting Kuwait, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Algeria and Lebanon, with the objective of exchanging views with the leaders of these countries,

Derailment of Amritsar bound Shan-e-Punjab on June 2, 1983862. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI KAMAL NATH:
SHRI MANOHAR LAL SAINI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Amritsar bound super-fast Express 'Shan-e-Punjab' derailed on Friday, June 2, 1983 about two kilometres from Amritsar Railway Station on its inaugural run; and

(b) if so, the result of the inquiry made about the cause of the derailment?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURY): (a) On 3-6-1983, 197 Up Shan-e-Punjab Express derailed about 3 kilometres short of Amritsar station.

(b) The cause of the accident has been determined as track defect at the spot where track alteration work was going on.

Outcome of Williamsberg meeting of developed countries863. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :
SHRI R.R. BHOLE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken note of the outcome of the deliberations of the Williamsberg Summit of major industrial nations, held towards the end of May, this year ;

(b) if so, what was the precise response of the Summit to the various specific proposals made by the non-aligned and developing countries for dealing with their problems and restructuring international economic relations; and