

Role Played by Prime Minister as Chairperson of NAM to solve Problems of Palestine and Iran-Iraq War

564. SHRI R.L. BHATIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the role played by Prime Minister as Chairperson of the NAM in the solution of the Palestation problem :

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : The New Delhi Nonaligned Summit set up an Eight-Member Committee at the level of Heads of State to cooperate with the Seven Member Arab Committee and to work with various forces influential in the Middle-East for the achievement of a just, durable and comprehensive peace in the region. India had been in touch with member of both these Committees to determine a suitable time for convening a meeting of the Nonaligned Committee of Eight. Following consultations in New York a meeting of the Committee at the level of senior officials was held in New Delhi on 30th and 31st October, 1983. This meeting reviewed the developments in the region with special reference to the contacts made by Members of the Committee bilaterally and at multilateral forums with the seven-member Arab Committee as well as with the various forces influential in the Middle East. It was felt that the Nonaligned Committee should proceed with its work at an official level on an independent basis taking as its starting point the consensus achieved by Arab countries of the Fez Summit and the substantive issues contained in the Geneva Declaration on Palestine and the Programme of Action for the achievement of Palestinian rights adopted at the International Conference on the Question of Palestine in Geneva on 7th September, 1983.

In the context of the disturbing turn of events in West Asia most recently, a Ministerial Meeting of Nonaligned Committee of Eight on Palestine is being convened.

Assessment Regarding sending Bulk Carriers to Mormugao Port by Japanese Delegation

565. SHRIMATI SANYOGITA RANE : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the technical delegation of the Japanese steel Mills recently visited Goa to assess the feasibility of amending biggest bulk carriers to the Mormugao Port ;

(b) if so, the details in this regard ; and

(c) the results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) A technical delegation of the Japanese Steel Mills visited Mormugao Port from 20-10-1983 to 25-10-1983 and signed an agreement with the Port Trust for nomination of vessels between 280-305 metres LOA (length over-all) for loading iron ore at berth No. 9. According to the agreement additional dredging in the turning circle was to be carried out by Mormugao Port Trust and its completion communicated to Japanese Steel Mills through the Goa Mineral Ore Exporters' Association by 5-11-1983. The required dredging has been completed and the Japanese Steel Mills have been informed of the same through a Harbour Notice issued on 2-11-1983.

Flyover at Sonepat, Panipat, Karnal and Kurukshetra

566. SHRI CHIRANJ LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide flyovers at Sonepat, Panipat, Karnal and Kurukshetra on the Northern Railway in Haryana region ;

(b) if so, whether any move has been made by the State Government to the Central Government in this behalf or vice versa ; and

(c) whether the Government would consider the desirability of providing under bridges at Sonepat and Karnal till such time the fly-overs/over bridges for light vehicles are built ?