

of preparation, consultation and rest.

(c) The Government of India has consistently stood for the initiation, continuation or resumption of dialogue and negotiations in various forums with a view to achieving progress towards arms limitation and disarmament. In accordance with this approach, the Government of India welcomes the continuation of the talks on force reduction in Central Europe. India believes that other members of the Non-aligned Movement (NAM) have a similar basic approach.

#### **Iraq Seeking U.S. Help to End War**

6707. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether despite best efforts by our Prime Minister in her capacity as Chairperson of NAM the conflict between Iran and Iraq could not be stopped;

(b) whether Iraq is now seeking U.S. help to end war and the prestige of NAM is at stake;

(c) whether Iraq's Foreign Minister met U.S. Assistant Secretary of State in this connection;

(d) whether U.S. State Department officials confirmed recently that the U.S. has launched a quiet diplomatic campaign to stop arms supply to Iran by Western countries;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) Government of India's reaction to such movements ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A.A. RAHIM) : (a) The Prime Minister as Chairperson of NAM is continuing her efforts to bring the unfortunate conflict between Iran and Iraq to an end.

(b) and (c) Government is aware of

the contacts between the United States of America and Iraq. President Reagan's special envoy Donald Rumsfeld visited Iraq in December 1983 and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy was in Baghdad in January 1984. The subject of their discussions with the Iraq is not known. These contacts and meetings do not affect the prestige of the Non-aligned Movement.

(d) and (e) Government has no details on reports of U.S. attempts to stop arms supplies to Iran by Western countries.

(f) Government welcomes all efforts to terminate the tragic conflict between two members of the Non-aligned Movement.

#### **Periodic checking of Food and Fastables**

6708. SHRI K. OBUL REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Railway authorities are checking the food and eatables that are being served both in trains and railway refreshment rooms periodically; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **News item, Caption, "U.S. Aid with Strings Policy may Hit India"**

6709. SHRI MANMOHAN TUDU : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the news item captioned "U.S. aid-with-strings policy may hit India" published in column No. 1, page No. 1 Business Standard dated 19 March, 1984 (Calcutta edition) stating that US likely to abandon its "current policy" of squeeze on the United Nations in favour of a Squeeze on Member Countries to force them to toe the US line in the