

है। ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में और रोजगार के अवसर उत्पन्न करने के लिए, प्रत्येक ग्रामीण भूमिहीन परिवार के एक सदस्य को वर्ष में 100 दिन का रोजगार उपलब्ध कराके ग्रामीण गरीबों में सबसे गरीब व्यक्तियों को कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत लाने के लिए वर्ष 1983-84 में ग्रामीण भूमिहीन रोजगार गारंटी कार्यक्रम शुरू किया गया था।

(ड) प्रश्न उत्पन्न नहीं होता।

**Communication Sent to World Leaders on Punjab Situation**

2486. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :  
SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi has written letters to several world leaders explaining the present situation in Punjab; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the reaction of the world leaders thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) In the context of recent events in Punjab and in view of the fact that a large number of persons of Indian origin, including Sikhs, reside abroad and carry on political activity related to issues in India, the Prime Minister wrote to several Heads of Government explaining the background of events. They have shown understanding of the situation.

**Talks Held with Pak Foreign Minister**

2487. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAIN SINHA :  
DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :  
SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :  
SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a meeting between the Foreign Minister of Pakistan and the Union Minister, on 9 July, 1984;

(b) whether there was any talk about the 'White Paper' on Punjab situation unauthorised supply of arms by Pakistan in India and hijacking of Indian Airlines Air Bus to Lahore; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (c) The Foreign Minister of Pakistan arrived at Delhi airport at 8.30 A.M. on the 9th July to proceed half-an-hour later to Male with our former Minister for External Affairs in the latter's special flight. The consultations during the flight were informal and of a general nature and covered several aspects of Indo-Pakistan relations.

**Harassment of Indians in Gulf Countries**

2488. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has received complaints from gulf countries regarding the sufferings and harassment of Indians working there due to the very stringent labour laws in gulf countries;

(b) the number of Indians now in Jails in different gulf countries; and

(c) the action taken by Government to get them released ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No specific complaints have been received from Gulf countries regarding sufferings and harassment of Indians working there due to the very stringent labour laws. However our Missions continue to receive complaints of a general nature from Indian workers concerning the variations in interpretation of contractual terms etc.