

Border demarcation between Burma and India

2551. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE:
SHRI BIRENDER SINGH
RAO:
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH
MALIK:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the border demarcation work with Burma has been completed;

(b) whether in the name of demarcating the border on the ground some Indian territory has been transferred to Burma; and

(c) if so, the details of the area so transferred?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) No, Sir.

No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

Improvement in relations with France

2552. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India think that there is scope for further improvement of relations with France;

(b) if so, in what particular sphere or spheres;

(c) whether the election of the new President had any impact on Franco-India relations; and

(d) if so, in what way?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) and (b). We have very close and friendly relations with France. Efforts are continually being made on both

sides to strengthen these relations further in all fields.

(c) and (d). We expect our very good relations with France to continue to grow in strength in all fields during the tenure of the new President of France.

Effect of rising prices on Defence Stores purchase programme

2553. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent inflation and phenomenal increase in prices of all goods, the Defence Ministry's stores purchase programme has been hit; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to keep the defence forces fighting trim despite the inflationary inroads into the defence budget?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH): (a) Inflation and increase in prices have had their effect on the procurement of Defence stores.

(b) Despite the escalation in prices, the fighting efficiency of the defence forces is being maintained at the required level by effecting economy wherever possible and readjustment of priorities.

China using Nepal as base for Tirades against India

2554. SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chinese Government have been using Nepal as its base for carrying out tirades against India which is against established international norms;

(b) whether the Government of India have drawn the attention of the Nepalese Government about the gross