

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India has been extending assistance to Iraq and Cuba under the Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme. Details of such assistance given to the two countries in the last three years are contained in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Details of assistance given by India to Iraq and under Cuba the Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme during the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99

IRAQ

I. Civilian Training

India offered 100 slots during the last three years to Iraq for training of Iraqi candidates in various fields including News Agency Journalism, Computer Software and Hardware, Banking, Production Management, Standardisation, curriculum Design and Instructional Material-Development, Rural Development, Urban Development Management, Human Resource Planning and Management, Management Development for Senior Executives, Fertiliser Quality Control, Auditing, Diplomacy, Small Industry Financing, Training Methods and Skills, Business Advisors Training Programme, Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development, Textile Testing and Quality Control, Educational Planning and Administration etc.

II. Study Visits

The following visits were financed under India's ITEC Programme in the last three years.

1. A team of two Doctors and one Pharmacist from Iraq visited India to interact with various medical authorities in India from 11.1.96 to 18.1.96. The team visited AIIMS, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi, Leprosy Institute, Agra, Ranbaxy Research and Development Centre-Gurgaon, Dabur Research and Development Centre, Ghaziabad etc.

2. A 4-member Indian team from Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, visited Iraq from 30-11-96 to 8-12-96. The team interacted with authorities from the Ministry of Agriculture, Iraq and visited various Agricultural related places.

3. A 5-member delegation headed by Deputy Minister of Agriculture from Iraq visited India from 26-4-97 to 6-5-97 to interact with Deptt. of Agriculture Research and Education, I.A.R.I., New Delhi, NDRI, Karnal, PAU, Ludhiana and CAZRI, Jodhpur etc.

4. A 3-member Indian team of Economist/Statisticians visited Iraq for a period of one week from 11-5-97 to 16-5-97.

III. Assistance for Disaster Relief :

1995-96 (1) Air freight borne by the Govern-

ment of India on relief assistance sent to Iraq by the Indian Humanitarian Initiative—Rs. 10.82 lakhs.

(2) 56 MT of tea — Rs. 50 lakhs.

(3) Medicines and pharmaceuticals — Rs. 2.85 lakhs.

(4) 1000 MT of Wheat—Rs. 65.75 lakhs.

1996-97

(1) Milk powder, baby food—Rs. 50 lakhs

(2) Medical equipment and appliances—Rs. 150 lakhs.

1998-99

School stationery—Rs. 50.67 lakhs.

CUBA

I. Civilian Training :

India offered 60 slots during the last three years to Cuba for training of Cuban nominees in various fields including Diplomacy, Fluid Control Research, Mill Management, Computer-Software, Standardisation, Bio-Medical Equipment, Rural Development, Urban Development Management, Production Management, Human Resource Planning and Management, Textile Quality Control, etc.

II. Study Visits :

A four-member delegation from Cuba led by Mr. Aldo Blanco, Executive Secretary and Advisor to the First Vice-Minister of Sugar, visited India from 13 to 25th February, 1994 to undertake study in the field of sugar production and its machinery.

III. Projects and projects-related assistance :

In 1995-96 a 10 KW Solar Photovoltaic Power plant was set up at a cost of Rs. 58.65 lakhs the Central Electronics Limited, Sahibabad (U.P.). In 1997 spares worth Rs. 1.42 lakhs were also supplied.

IV. Military Training : One NDC slot was utilised in 1995-96.

V. Aid for Disaster Relief : In 1996-97 medicines worth Rs. 5 lakhs were supplied.

Bill on Cyber Crimes

3324. SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA : Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bill on cyber crimes gives enough power to go about the cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any case has been booked in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) The proposed Information Technology Bill 1999 lays down the legal framework for electronic-commerce. The Bill also provides for penalties for computer crimes, unauthorised access to computer network, computer database and offences such as tampering with the computer source documents, electronic forgery and other types of computer crimes.

(c) and (d) Action would be possible when the Bill becomes law.

North Korean Assistance to Pakistan

3325. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRI A.C. JOS :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "China, North Korea aided Pak. : CIA" appearing in the 'Pioneer' on February 12, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Pakistan's Ghauri missile is a version of North Korean Nodong missile having a range of 800 miles; and

(d) if so, the measures taken by the government to inform North Korea not to transfer missile related technology to Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government have seen press reports cited above, based on a report by the Central Intelligence Agency of the USA, that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) assisted Pakistan's ballistic missile programme.

(c) It is widely believed that the Ghauri missile is a Pakistani version of the DPRK's 'Nodong' missile.

(d) Government have drawn the attention of the DPRK Government to these reports and conveyed India's concerns over DPRK's involvement in a programme that has an adverse effect on India's security.

Nuclear War

3326. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an 'independent' task-force of the

United States Council of Foreign Relations has in a report warned that both India and Pakistan are heading for a nuclear war; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) The Report of the Independent Task Force on "US policy towards India and Pakistan" co-sponsored by the Bookings Institution and the Council on Foreign Relations published in September 1998, recognises India as the potential strategic partner of the US and States that India has the potential to become a major power in Asia in the next century. The report refers *inter alia* to an "increased likelihood" that nuclear weapons could be used in a conflict in South Asia either by design or by accident. It has stated that this assessment is not universally shared, as nuclear deterrence could contribute to stability as it did between US and the Soviet Union. The co-sponsors of the Task Force Report are independent think tanks.

(b) Governments has repeatedly made clear that India has no aggressive designs. Through the historic Lahore Declaration signed between the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan on February 21, 1999, both countries have agreed to take immediate steps for reducing the risk of accidental or unauthorised use of nuclear weapons and for confidence building in the nuclear and conventional fields aimed at prevention of conflict.

Sarkaria Commission

3327. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sarkaria Commission has made recommendations to the Union Government to transfer some Agriculture Departments to the State Governments;

(b) if so, the salient features of the recommendations of Sarkaria Commission in this regard; and

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Cryogenic Engine

3328. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first of six cryogenic stages contracted from the Russian Space Agency Glavkosmos has arrived in India;