

(c) A meeting between officials of India and Pakistan was held in New Delhi 30.1.90 to 2.2.90, to discuss the question of captured fishermen and the vessels. It was agreed to take necessary action to repatriate all the fishermen and to release all the vessels, that have been apprehended since 11 February, 1988.

The release and repatriation will be effected by 31.3.1990.

U.S. Aid to Pakistan

*150. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United States has granted an aid package to Pakistan which includes the supply of military equipments and sophisticated weapons;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reactions thereto;

(c) whether any protest has been lodged with U.S. Administration in this regard; and

(d) if so, the reaction of U.S. Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL):(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The details of US assistance to Pakistan for FY 89-90 are as follows:

Development assistance	—	\$ 43	million
PL 480 Title I	—	\$ 80	million
Economic support funds (ESF)	—	\$ 230	million
Foreign Military Sales (FMS)	—	\$ 230	million
IMET	—	4 1	million
Anti-narcotics aid	—	\$ 5.7	million
		\$589.7	million

On a number of occasions, the Government of India has brought to the attention of the US administration, India's serious concern over the supply of sophisticated weapons to Pakistan beyond that country's legitimate defence requirements.

(d) The US Government maintains that US assistance to Pakistan is not directed against India.

[English]

Arrangements for Handling Coal at Cochin Port

*151. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to handle coal in Cochin port for the use of

Mettur Thermal Power Plant and proposed Kayamkulam Thermal Power Plant; and

(b) if so, the arrangements being made in the port for handling the coal?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) and (b). The Tamil Nadu Electricity Board has intimated that they do not propose to use Cochin Port for transporting coal to the Mettur Power Plant. No decision regarding the Port which will handle coal for the proposed Kayamkulam Thermal Power Plant has been taken.

**Report of Indian High Commission in
Trinidad & Tobago About St. Kitts
Account**

*152. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any report from the Indian High Commission in Trinidad & Tobago to the effect that the Government of St. Kitts was seriously enquiring into the alleged accounts of an Indian National;

(b) if so, on what basis this report was submitted by the Indian High Commission;

(c) whether Government have investigated into this matter; and

(d) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise

(c) and (d). This whole question is under verification.

Privatisation of Telephone Services

*153. SHRI NATHU SINGH:
PROF. YADUNATH PANDEY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to hand over the work relating to provision of telephones to private sector in view of difficulties and delay in providing telephone connections and lack of reliable service to the people;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). There is no proposal to hand over the work relating to provision of telephones to private sector. Every effort is being made to expand and upgrade the telecommunication network in order to reduce delays in providing telephone connection and to improve reliability of the service.

Availability of Agricultural inputs

*154. SHRI ANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes initiated by Government to ensure easy and cheap availability of power, machines and other modern agricultural inputs to small and marginal farmers; and

(b) the percentage of agricultural produce contributed at present by small and marginal farmers and how far it is proposed to be increased by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan?