

adequate contributions to finance its activities; and

(c) the main activities of the SAARC which will be financed out of this fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) While there is no SAARC FUND as such, the latest position regarding the pledges of contributions for SAARC programme activities is as follows:

STATEMENT

Bangladesh	:	Bangladesh Takas 7.5 million (= Indian Rs. 3.36 million approx.) (1987-88)
Bhutan	:	Bhutanese Nu 2 million (=Indian Rs. 2 million) (1987-88)
India	:	Indian Rs. 15 million (1987-88)
Maldives	:	Maldivian Rufiyaa 252,000 (=Indian Rs. 420,000 approx.) 1987
Nepal	:	Nepalese Rs. 7 million (=Indian Rs. 4.12 million approx.) (1987-88)
Pakistan	:	Pakistani Rs. 12.5 million + Rs. 500,000 for scholarships (= Indian Rs. 9.33 million + Indian Rs. 373,000 approx.) (1987-88)
Sri Lanka	:	Sri Lanka Rs. 5 million (1987) (= Indian Rs. 2.22 million approx.)

(b) Contributions presently made by member States are adequate, for the time being, to finance SAARC activities.

(c) The contributions by member countries are used for financing programmes included in the SAARC Calendar of Activities and for other programmes agreed to by the member countries to expand and strengthen regional cooperation.

Ban on Import of Revolvers

*98. SHRI S.G. GHOLAP: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether import of revolvers has been

recently banned;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether licence holders can import or not?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S.BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. On receipt of reports from some Indian Missions abroad about an unprecedented spurt in the import of firearms as part of baggage by Indian tourists, which in the Prevailing conditions was not considered desirable, a ban on such imports was imposed in public interest with effect from 13.11.1986. Under the said ban, licence holders cannot import fire arms.