

Pakistanis making efforts to acquire uranium enrichment and nuclear fuel reprocessing capability which could enable it to assemble a nuclear device.

(b) Government have seen press reports to this effect.

(c) Government has no confirmation about these reports.

(d) Government is monitoring developments in this regard and is taking all necessary steps to safeguard the security interests of India.

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR: Based on the Minister's reply, I would like to ask whether Government is trying to confirm the press report that Pakistan is going to conduct nuclear test on Chinese territory.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: I have said that we have no confirmation of this.

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR: My question was, whether Government is trying to confirm.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: What he wants to ask perhaps is whether Government is ascertaining still. I have said that we are monitoring all developments.

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR: In view of the fact that Pakistanis holding massive military exercises, Pakistan President has referred to Jammu & Kashmir during his speech before the U. N. General Assembly, the U. S. President Jimmy Carter says that, if Pakistan is in danger, the USA will defend Pakistan according to the 1959 US-Pak Defence Agreement, and China is supplying jet fighters and ground-to-air missiles to Pakistan, may I know whether Government is proposing to hold any talks with Pakistan in order to strengthen the peace in the Indian Sub-continent?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Our talks with Pakistan are going on regarding various issues. The Foreign Minister of Pakistan visited here. But the President of Pakistan chose to

make certain observations in regard to Jammu & Kashmir in the U.N. General Assembly. I had occasion to reply to him. This kind of exchange is going on. But, at the same time, we are quite vigilant on the matter, particularly on matters regarding the capability of other countries to do or not to do certain things.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Number of Indians killed in Iraq-Iran War

*47. **SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:**
SHRI DILEEP SINGH
BHURIA:

Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Indians who have been killed and injured during Iraq and Iran war;

(b) whether any assistance or compensation has been given in such circumstances; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) The number are: 15 Indians killed and 25 injured; in addition, three Indians are reported missing and are so far not traceable.

(b) and (c). Those killed and injured were all employees of private companies/Iraqi State undertakings. Claims for compensation in these unfortunate cases have been preferred under the relevant Iraqi regulations, by their respective employers and are under consideration of the concerned authorities.

Nepal Government's stand on Nepalese settled in India

*49 **SHRI M. V. CHANDRA SHEKARA MURTHY:** Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nepal has taken a stand that Nepalese who have settled in Assam and in other