

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

North Eastern States before 1971 have to be treated as Indian citizens of Nepal origin;

(b) if so, the number of Nepalese who are living in Assam and in other North Eastern States at present; and

(c) whether Government have taken the decision in regard to the demand made by Nepal Government and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) In the course of discussions during the Debate on Demand for Grants for the Foreign Ministry in the Rashtriya Panchayat in September, 1980, the Nepalese Foreign Minister, Mr. K. B. Shahi, commenting on the question of Nepalese in Assam and other North Eastern States of India was reported in the press to have stated that "Nepalese entering those areas after 1971 when the Government of India restricted travel to those areas might be regarded as a Nepali problem but regarding those who entered the above mentioned States of India before 1971, it might be said that it is an Indian problem. Nepalese entering Assam and other Indian States before 1971 would have to be treated as Indian citizens of Nepali origin."

(b) According to the 1971 census reports, the number of persons born in Nepal and enumerated in the States/UTs of the North-Eastern Region is as follows:

Name of States/UTs	Persons of Nepal-esc origin
Assam*	78,268
Manipur	6,940
Meghalaya	13,397
Nagaland	9,278
Tripura	930
Arunachal Pradesh	15,551

*Includes Mizo District, now constituted as Union Territory of Mizoram. According to the 1971 Census, the following number of person enumerated in the North-Eastern Region have given Nepali Gorkhali as their mother tongue:

Name of the States/UTs	
Arunachal Pradesh	20,911
Assam	3,49,116
Manipur	26,381
Meghalaya	44,445
Mizoram	4,557
Nagaland	17,536
Tripura	2,107

(c) Does not arise since the Nepal Government have made no such demand officially.

Theft at Kenduapada Railway Station

*50. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a theft at Kenduapada Railway Station of Khurda Division of South Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the details of the theft committed;

(c) whether any arrest has been made in the incident;

(d) whether some railway employees in connivance with railway contractors in the locality have committed this theft; and

(e) what specific steps Government have taken to round up the culprits involved in the incident?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI KEDAR PANDAY): (a) Yes, Sir.