

MR. SPEAKER: I did not call you. He is putting everything in my mouth and getting up. I will never mention your name in future!

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Demarcation of Boundary between India and Burma

\*241. SHRI MUHAMMED SHERIFF.  
SHRI VARKEY GEORGE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether boundary demarcation work has been completed between Burma and India; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b). No, Sir. So far about 820 miles, out of a total of 906 miles, of the Indo-Burma Boundary have been demarcated. The demarcation work continues. The Indo-Burma Joint Boundary Commission meets every year to take decisions regarding the work of demarcation and the survey officials of the two countries are in continuous contact for demarcation on the ground.

Meeting of National Council of Trade Unions

\*243. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO:  
SHRI V. MAYAVAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether meeting of the National Council of Trade Unions was held on the 11th November, 1972; and

(b) if so, the main reasons for calling this meeting?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) A meeting of the National Council of Trade Unions is reported to have been held in Bombay on November 10-11, 1972;

(b) The Government have no information.

Statement by Malaysian Prime Minister on proposed South-East Asian Neutrality Plan

\*246 SHRI DHARAMRAO AFZALPURKAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Malaysian Prime Minister, Tun Abdul Razak on a visit to a Soviet Union, has said that 'it will not be useful to bring big powers like India and Japan' in the proposed South-East Asian Neutrality Plan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) (a) and (b). At a Press conference on October 3, 1972, in Moscow, the Malaysian Prime Minister said that Malaysia preferred a smaller area for neutralisation in South-East Asia, because it was not a good thing to bring Big Powers like India, China and Japan into the area of neutrality.

As far as Government is aware, the South-East Asian region, in the context of the Malaysian proposal of neutralisation, comprises ten States, namely, Burma, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam (North and South).

The Government of India have always held the view that the South-East Asian region should be free from Great Power domination and rivalries. Developments, towards this objective are therefore desirable in the interest of peace and security of the entire region.