

Ceylon's withdrawal of Trade Licences from Temporary Residence Permit Holders

* 86. **SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL** : Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Indian traders and businessmen have been affected by the decision of the Ceylonese Government to withdraw trade licences from the Temporary Residence Permit Holders by the end of 1972 ; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) As the House is aware, the Government of Ceylon have decided not to give extensions to the residence permits of a number of foreign nationals in pursuance of their decision to Ceylonise certain occupations. Approximately 3,000 Indian nationals have been affected.

(b) The Government of India have been in constant touch with the Government of Ceylon to safeguard the interests of Indian nationals affected by these measures.

Conference on Indian Ocean

*588. **SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA**:

SHRI K. MALLANNA:

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

(a) whether Government propose to call a Conference on Indian Ocean to ensure peace in the Indian Ocean area; and

(b) if so, the names and number of such countries which are likely to be invited and the nature of the objects of the Conference ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b) . There is no such proposal under consideration of Government at present. Government have, however, noted the recent escalation of the naval presence of different powers in the Indian Ocean. Government have supported the Lusaka Declaration of 1970 and the UN General Assembly Resolution No. 2832 (XXVI) declaring the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. Government are studying how this objective which they have supported may best be achieved.

Nature of Asian Collective Security System

*592. **SHRI RAJDEO SINGH**: Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nature of "Asian Collective Security system" has been ascertained from U. S. S. R.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) and (b) . While the Soviet Union has put forward the idea of Asian Collective Security, no concrete proposals have so far been made by them in this regard.

As I stated in the House yesterday, it is for countries in the region to develop this concept further and to evolve, in consultation with each other, ways and means to safeguard their independence and sovereignty and to strengthen cooperation amongst themselves in all fields.

अन्तरिक्ष संधि

*593. **श्री कमल सिंह मधुकर**: क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत सरकार को इस आशय की कोई सूचना मिली है कि अमरीका,