

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what was the consensus of the conference in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Setting up of a Non-aligned Film Pool as also a Non-aligned Photo-Pool have been proposed by India during the Third Conference of Ministers for Information of the Non-aligned Countries held at Havana in September, 1990. Modalities of the proposal are being worked out.

(c) The Indian proposals were, *prima facie*, acceptable to the participating countries

Self-immolations against Mandal Commission recommendations

1433 SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state —

(a) what are the details of the self-immolation and suicide bids in protest against the Government's reservation policy since the decision on the Mandal Commission was announced on August 7, 1990;

(b) the number of persons who died; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) The following information has been received so far

	Self-Immolation		Suicides	
	Bids	Deaths	Bids	Deaths
Gujarat	13		1	
Punjab	6	6	5	5
Delhi	17	10	1	1

(c) The Government order regarding reservation in jobs to socially and educationally backward classes has been challenged in the court of law. The matter is pending before the Supreme Court. The Court has directed that no steps to implement the said Government Order shall be taken till the pendency of the hearing, excepting identification of the Castes to be benefited.

Pak attack in Keran sub-section of Jammu and Kashmir

1434. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistani forces resorted to unprovoked attack with mortar and heavy artillery in the Keran sub-sector in Jammu and Kashmir on October, 4, 1990 and that the

Indian troops repulsed the attack effectively;

(b) if so, the casualties suffered therein on both sides; and

(c) whether the Pak attack was aimed at pushing trained terrorists with arms across the borders into Punjab and how far their object was fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI LALIT VIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Pakistan had resorted to unprovoked firing with mortar and heavy artillery in the Keran Sector on 4-10-1990, in which three of our personnel were wounded. Fire was effectively returned. Casualties suffered by the Pakistanis are not known.

(c) There have been occasions when the Pak troops were giving fire cover to the Pak trained militants returning to the Indian side of the Line of Control. Such firing had to be effectively returned by the Indian troops, to foil such attempts.

Economic package for Punjab

1435. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made in the implementation of the Economic package chalked out by Government to restore confidence amongst the people, especially the youth of Punjab, to prepare the ground for restoration of democratic Government in that State, indicating the targets fixed, the actual achievement made and the expenditure so far made vis-a-vis the total layout of each scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) A set of economic measures for Punjab was announced by the former Prime Minister in the Parliament on 5th October, 1990. Action on the various schemes is being taken

by the concerned Ministries/Departments in consultation with the State Government. The progress of the action taken is being reviewed periodically. Detailed information is being collected and would be laid on the table of the House.

Discussion with ILO Deputy Director General

1436. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ILO Deputy Director General, recently visited New Delhi to discuss about the formulation of programme strategy on two major areas of concern, namely (i) implementing the policy on ensuring the right to work as a fundamental right and (ii) rehabilitating the Indian workers returning from the Gulf in the context of the recent Gulf crisis;

(b) if so, what was the outcome of the discussions, and

(c) what follow-up action is being taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN) (a) The Deputy Director-General in charge of technical co-operation in the International Labour Organisation, Geneva, during her visit to India on September 19-22, 1990 reviewed various technical cooperation activities of the Government of India with the ILO. No discussion was however held on the formulation of programme strategy to implement the right to work as a fundamental right, or the rehabilitation of Indian workers returning from the Gulf in the context of the recent Gulf crisis.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.