

We the participants of national *conversazione* appreciate that India has consistently sought to develop friendly and good neighbourly relations with Pakistan on the basis of Simla Agreement. We, however, feel disturbed by the reports of continuous and increased support by Pakistan to terrorist and successionist activities in Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir. Pakistan's deliberate attempts to generate religious hysteria in Jammu & Kashmir is an expression of its moving away from the commitments it undertook under the Simla Agreement. Even otherwise Pakistan's actions in building up some strategic linkage with the extra-regional powers have caused an arms race and an atmosphere of suspicion in the sub-continent.

We the participants feel that in the absence of a meaningful mutual cooperation and presence of external pressures, South-Asia may be drawn into devastating conflicts. We, therefore, call upon the people and government of Pakistan to realise this fact and desist from the path leading to self-destruction.

India cannot remain a silent spectator to threats to its territorial integrity and sovereignty. Her reconciliatory efforts, if not reciprocated, may lead to destabilization and confrontation in the region. Responsibilities for this will squarely lie with Pakistan. Establishment of democracy in Pakistan and changes in international situation should have provided necessary conditions in Pakistan for a new approach in its foreign policy conducive to its and regions, economic social and political development.

We also feel pained at the recent unfortunate acts by the government of Fiji which are based on racial prejudices. In the present day world when we are moving towards equality & dignity the individual, such an attitude is deplorable and surely is not conducive to regional peace.

We the participants feel that as long as the states in the region continue to cultivate an adversarial relationships with one another, they would continue to direct a major percent of their budgetary revenues into defence expenditures. But if attention is directed towards peace and survival, the

development will find a better course. It is therefore important that the Indian Ocean be declared as zone of peace and all our efforts be made to reduce the arms build up in the region. Tremendous human and natural resources potential of South Asia are capable of achieving desired developmental goals and fulfilling the genuine aspirations of the people of the region. We, therefore urge upon the people and governments of the states in the region to evolve responses and mechanisms that could fit into bilateral and multilateral ventures of co-operation without damaging each nation's enlightened and basic interests. To create a harmonious environment in the region, people to people relationship, needs to be encouraged. We, therefore, call upon the government of South Asian countries to strengthen the SAARC spirit, by allowing free flow of tourists among the member countries, exchange information and undertake media cooperation.

#### **Liberalisation of U.S. immigration laws**

3244. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S. immigration laws are proposed to be liberalised; if so, what is Government's information in this regard; and

(b) whether Government had lately taken up the matter with U.S. authorities; if so, in what context and background and what was the U.S. response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH): (a) Government has no such information.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Tapping of Telephones of VIPs**

3245. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the tapping of telephones of VIPs/Ministers are being