

(b) It was conveyed to Congressman Solarz that the basic issue was Pakistan's support to secessionism and terrorism. Hence, if Pakistan were to implement the first point of the five-point formulation, all other things would fall into place.

**Soviet help in improving Bilateral relations with Neighbouring countries**

1695. SHRI VITHALRAO  
MADHAVRAO  
JADHAV:

SHRI PRABHAKAR B.  
KORE:

SHRI H. HANUMAN-  
THAPPA:

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

(a) what is the stand of the Government of India on China, Pakistan Soviet Union, Nepal and Sri Lanka;

(b) whether Government propose to solve the Indo-Pak. Indo-China disputes with the help of Soviet Union; and

(c) what is the progress in solving the outstanding problems of our neighbouring countries and what efforts Government have taken in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH):** (a) It is Government policy to maintain and strengthen relations with all States, while devoting special attention to fostering better relations with our neighbours.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) Over the past eight months, Government has made considerable progress in resolving outstanding problems and improving the quality of

India's relations with its neighbours. Indo-Nepal relations have been fully normalised following Prime Minister K. P. Bhattarai's visit to India in June this year. The process of imparting a new dynamism and positive thrust to our multi-faceted cooperation has been continued during EAM's visit to Nepal from August 5-7, 1990. Indian Peace Keeping Forces in Sri Lanka were de-inducted ahead of schedule. We sincerely hope that ethnic conflict and violence in Sri Lanka will end and the Government and the people of Sri Lanka will establish a framework wherein all sections of the population can live and prosper in harmony. Positive momentum has been generated in our relations with Bangladesh following EAM's visit to Dhaka in February this year which was followed by a meeting in Delhi of the Joint Economic Commission under the co-Chairmanship of the Foreign Ministers of the two countries. A recent ruling by the Supreme Court of India on the leasing of Tin Bigha has paved the way for the full implementation of the Indo-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement. Our ties with Maldives have consolidated following Prime Minister's visit to Male earlier this year. We have also continued to nurture the traditionally close and friendly relations between India and Bhutan. With China, we have strengthened our dialogue at the political level and exchanges and interactions in other fields of growing. Pakistan has been the only exception to this trend. Tensions have developed in our relations due to Pakistan's support to terrorism and subversion directed against India. On our part, however, we remain committed to resolving all our differences peacefully through bilateral negotiations as provided for in the Simla Agreement.