

(c) if not, what steps Government propose to take to keep the States within their own borders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (c) The Governments of Assam and Nagaland have been requested to suggest and agreed person to be appointed to go into all aspects of the border dispute between the two States, together with agreed terms of reference.

A Tripartite Committee consisting of representatives of Survey of India, Government of Assam and Government of Arunachal Pradesh was set up by the Government of India to consider the question of demarcation of boundary between Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. The Survey of India are undertaking the task of erecting pillars in certain areas. The two State Governments are in touch with each other regarding the boundary problem.

The Governments of Assam and Meghalaya have constituted a Committee of Experts headed by Shri Y.V. Chandrachud, formerly the Chief Justice of India by mutual agreement, to consider the question of interpretation of the constitutional boundary between the two States.

Environment protection councils

1612. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Governments have been advised to set up Environment Protection Councils with the task of promoting general awareness on the protection of environment;

(b) if so, how many State Governments have complied with the advice so far; and

(c) what are the other functions of the said Councils?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two States have constituted the Councils. Five States have informed of their willingness to constitute the Councils.

(c) (i) Review work relating to environment undertaken in State by Government and Non-Governmental Organisation.

(ii) Advise the State Government on environmental issues of the State.

(iii) Identify areas requiring investigation, research and restoration in the field of environment.

Delhi as Air Pollution Control Area

1613. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to declare the Union Territory of Delhi as "Air Pollution Control Area";

(b) if so, whether Government have identified major air pollutants in Delhi and if so, the measures taken to check them effectively;

(c) whether Government are aware of the perfectly feasible technical methods of controlling pollution from thermal power plants and if so, what steps have been taken against Indraprastha power station for causing high level of pollution; and

(d) whether Government are considering to amend the Motor Vehicles Act to enforce automobile emission standards and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The measures taken include the following:

(i) Ambient air quality standards have been laid down;

(ii) Emission limits for major air polluting industries have been prescribed;

(iii) The thermal power plants have been directed to install high efficiency Electrostatic Precipitators;

(iv) A programme for control of pollution from Vehicular exhausts has been launched; and

(v) Air quality monitoring stations have been set up.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Indraprastha power station has been directed to replace three units of electrostatic precipitators which are not functioning satisfactorily. Action has been taken by the power station to replace these units by installing high efficiency electrostatic precipitators. A monitoring cell has also been set up at the Indraprastha Power Station for periodic assessment of performance of the electrostatic precipitators.

(d) Yes, Sir. The proposal includes provision whereby vehicles at the manufacturing stage and those onroad shall have to conform to the emission standards prescribed by the Central Government.

India's relationship with Africa

1614. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the major priorities in our foreign policy objectives and whether special thrust has been given in our relationship with Africa;

(b) whether, Government are aware that greater awareness of the facts and issues involved in the anti-apartheid struggle is required among the people of this country; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are taking to create support for the oppressed people of South Africa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The major priorities of our foreign policy are peace, disarmament and development. Africa has consistently enjoyed a special priority in our foreign policy preoccupa-

tions. The critical situation in Southern Africa has called for special attention to this region.

(b) The people of India are strongly committed to support the struggle against apartheid. There is nevertheless a continuing need to increase public awareness of all aspects of this struggle.

(c) Government have been deploying consistent efforts in such fora as the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Commonwealth to mobilise world public opinion in support of the oppressed people of South Africa. Government have forcefully advocated the application of comprehensive mandatory sanctions as the only effective means to secure the dismantlement of the system of apartheid in South Africa. Government have also urged the widest possible support of South African liberation movements.

Export of Cotton

1615. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of cotton produced by cotton producing States during 1984-85, 1985-86 and by the end of 1986-87 and the quantity exported during these years;

(b) what is the quantity of cotton likely to be exported this year and whether Government are considering higher allocation;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a steep rise in the export of cotton; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government are considering to boost the export of cotton to prevent glut in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (d) A statement is attached.