

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that security of South Asian countries has declined due to the supply of sophisticated weapons by USA in this region to such an extent that Indian security has been directly endangered; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to safeguard the security of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) Government are concerned about the U.S. supply of sophisticated and modern weaponry to Pakistan. This massive U.S. arms assistance has security implication for India. Our concern and apprehensions have been conveyed to the United States on several occasions and at various levels. All developments affecting our security are assessed on a continuing basis and Government take appropriate measures from time to time to maintain adequate defence preparedness.

Air Pollution in Delhi

475. SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA: SHRI SURAJ PRASAD;

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Times of India of the 19th December, 1984, regarding high level of 'air pollution in Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that high level of toxic and harmful gases are emitted every day by various industries and power plants; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The following measures have been taken for the purpose—

(1) With the notification of Air Rules in 1984, all the air polluting units in the capital are being asked to obtain necessary consent of the Central Pollution Control Board, as prescribed under the rules.

(2) An assessment of the 'gaseous emissions per industry' in all the major industrial areas has been carried out;

(3) Based on the assessment made as above, two 'Air Pollution control Areas' have been notified.

FICCI Demand to Raise the Limit for Monopoly Houses

476. SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA; SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Chamber of Commerce (FICCI) has demanded that the limit of rupees twenty crores for the monopoly houses be raised to rupees fifty crores; and

(b) if so, what action Government are taking in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS: (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The suggestion of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Com-