

existence. Hence Government has not initiated any action to seek the return of the Peacock Throne from Iran.

Complaints against mismanagement by a foreign shipping company

817. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have received reports and complaints from the share-holders and workers regarding mismanagement and sale of property by a foreign shipping concern M/s. Mackiunon Mackenzie & Company and its Indian subsidy M/s. Randip Shipping Co. Pvt. Limited;

(b) if so, what is the nature of complaints;

(c) whether Government have taken any action to investigate these complaints; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) The Ministry of Shipping and Transport has not received any reports and complaints from the shareholders and workers regarding mismanagement and sale of properties by M/s. Mackinnon Mackenzie and Company Limited and M/s. Randip Shipping Company Private Limited.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

Conference on Europe's role in North-South Dialogue

818. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN; Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a three-day Conference, on Europe's role in North-South Dialogue was held in Lisbon around April 10, 1984 wherein the World Bank Vice-President had warned the International Development Agency Contributors against serious consequences of forcing India to seek commercial credit and to use some of its hard earned reserves to meet its financial requirements; and

(b) if so, the substance of the deliberations of the Conference and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe organised a Conference on "North-South: Europe's role" from 9—11 April 1984 in Lisbon. In a speech to the Conference Mr. Munir P. Benjenk, Vice-President (External Relations) of the World Bank, referring to the role of the International Development Association (IDA) said, "In India, whose self-sufficiency in foodgrains is one of the great successes of aid-assisted development, and in China, where we have an historic opportunity to support economic reform and liberalisation, IDA's role is being severely limited. Recently we have been advised that these two countries should be left to seek finance on the market place and use up some of their hard-earned reserves. Such action today could all too likely turn them into the Brazils and Argentinas of tomorrow".

Mr. Benjenk also referred to the need for additional concessional finance to reverse the alarming trends in the world's poorest countries and said, "Even India and China, which have fared relatively well during the recession, must be very careful in contracting commercial debt. They are still poor, relatively inflexible economies, and large commercial debt would leave them vulnerable to financial crises some time in the future.

(b) The aim of this Conference was to define what Europe can do to invigorate the North-South Dialogue and how to generate the political will to break the present stalemate. Among those who addressed the Conference were the President and Prime Minister of Portugal; the Minister of External Affairs of India (on behalf of the Chairperson of the Non-aligned Movement: the Chairman of the Group of 77; the Prime Minister of