

mutual example. It will be wrong to confuse this central issue by pointing a finger at the developing countries, where also military expenditure has no doubt risen but which have inherited various kinds of problems from their colonial past and are constantly striving to maintain their hard-won independence.

Indian in the Bhawalpur Jail in Pakistan

1236. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 1802 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th July, 1982 and state:

(a) whether Government had again taken up with the Pakistan Government the matter of release of Shri Subhash Chander Jain of Jammu, who is an Indian internee in the Bhawalpur Jail in Pakistan and whether the Pakistan Government have since indicated any date for his release and repatriation; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) and (b) The matter has been constantly pursued with the Pakistan authorities through Embassy of India, Islamabad regarding release and repatriation of Shri Subhash Chander Jain but so far he has not been offered for repatriation by the Pakistan Government. Efforts are going on the exchange prisoners between both the countries and it is hoped that Shri Subhash Chander Jain may also be one of them.

Baron and Canning Company of New York

1237. SHRI SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Baron and Canning Company, Inc, 540 Madison Avenue, New York which is retained by the Government of India for public relations services between India and U.S.A. was dealing with South Africa; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for retaining the services of the above Company and whether Government propose to review the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) The Government of India have engaged the services of Messers Baron Canning Company, a public relations firm based in New York. The Company had dealing with South Africa when it was under a different owner. We have been however assured that the Company does not work for South Africa under its present ownership.

(b) The Company advises the Embassy of India, Washington on the attitudes and views in the United States on questions affecting India. The Company also assists the Embassy in enhancing contacts and communications with U.S. Congressional Circles and other important economic and commercial agencies as well as with the press and the public to promote greater understanding of Indian policies and interests in the USA.

Israeli Consul in Bombay

1238. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the date when the Consul of Israel in Bombay left India;

(b) whether the Government of Israel have appointed a new incumbent for the post and requested the Government for the exequatur in his favour;

(c) whether Government have issued the exequatur; and

(d) when he is likely to join at Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) The Israeli Consul left India on July 11, 1982.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. This matter is under the consideration of the Government of India.