

AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

In his speech to the UN General Assembly on October 4, 1982 the Foreign Minister of Pakistan referred to Kashmir without making a mention of the U.N. resolutions and the Simla Agreement.

(b) Government's position that reference to Kashmir issue in the UN forums is contrary to the Simla Agreement has been conveyed to Pakistan on different occasions.

Ban on Wearing Turbans in Schools in U.K.

2475. SHRI SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news items about Indian Sikhs revolting in U.K. against court judgement that Sikhs are not a race, hence cannot wear turbans in schools; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The British Government is aware of the sentiments of the Sikh community both in India and in the U.K. However, the Government of India cannot interfere in the judicial processes of another country.

Recruitment of Indian seamen by Britains task force

2476. SHRI SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a.) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item that the Britain's task force recruited Indian seamen under poor conditions unacceptable to their British counter-

parts during the recent conflict with Argentina; and

(b) if so, what action Government has taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) Government of India are aware of the recruitment of some Indian seamen in a British hospital ship that took part in the Falkland operation.

(b) Does not arise as the Indian seamen took up employment on their own accord.

Campaign launched by the United Front in so-called 'Azad Kashmir'

2477. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the campaign launched by the United Front in so-called 'Azad Kashmir' for free elections, greater autonomy, non-payment of taxes, etc;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto as also to the arrest of political leaders such as Sarvashri C. N. Hussain, Abdul Khaliq Ansari, Abdul Qaiyum and Sardar Mohammad Ibrahim; and

(c) what other details does the Government have in respect of the above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It is Government's hope that the people and the political leaders in Pak-occupied Kashmir would enjoy the same democratic rights as in the rest of India.

Meeting of nonaligned group

2478. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the