

Loss suffered by the Mogul Line

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mogul Line has been consistently suffering losses on account of Haj traffic;

(b) if so, what is the loss suffered in 1977, 1978 and 1979;

(c) whether these losses have been compensated by Government through grant of subsidy every year;

(d) if so, what is the amount of subsidy paid or proposed to be paid in respect of Haj traffic for these years and its quantum per pilgrim;

(e) whether the operational cost is likely to go up in 1980, as compared to that in 1979; and

(f) if so, whether this would be met by increase in Haj fare or through subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Amount of losses suffered is indicated below, year-wise:

			Rs.
1977-78	.	.	1,22,56,892
1978-79	.	.	1,37,53,37
1979-80	.	.	1,43,00,000 (Estimated)

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir, to the extent of 80 per cent for the years 1977 to 1979 and 100 per cent for the year 1979-80. The year-wise figures are given below:

Year	Subsidy	Quantum per pilgrim
	Rs.	Rs.
1977-78	98,05,514	639.84
1978-79	1,10,02,702	754.95
1979-80	1,43,00,000	953.65

(e) Yes, Sir, between 15 and 20 per cent.

(f) The higher cost would be met by a small increase in Haj fare and through an increase in Government subsidy which is under consideration.

RoJe of Indian Government in solving the Afghan issue

•72. SHRI R. NARASIMHA REDDY:

SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR:

SHRI RAMANAND YADAV:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the Indian formula to resolve the Afghan crisis and what are the names of the countries which share India's view;

(b) whether India is able to bridge the gap between the Soviet and the Western positions and find a suitable forum for voicing its views of solving the Afghan crisis; and

(c) what steps the Government of India have taken to resolve the Afghan crisis?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO):
(a) There is no "Indian formula" such for resolving the Afghan situation.

(b) Government of India has been having meaningful consultations with a number of countries with a view to finding ways and means of defusing the situation in the region and for moving towards creation of conditions which would facilitate Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan.

(c) Towards this end Government of India have consulted with the following Countries: Britain, Bangladesh, France, Australia, Austria, Iraq, USSR, Yugoslavia, Algeria, Hungary, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Afghanistan, USA, Canada, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iran and Japan. Although as of now there is no clear plan of