

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister had given the American Government to understand that India would formally recognize the present actual boundary between India and China when relations between the two countries were fully restored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. KUNDU): (a) and (b) The item bases itself largely on a story carried in the New York Times on June 12th which distorted PM's remarks made in the course of a TV interview on June 11th. The New York Times story was categorically denied by the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs and this denial has also been carried in most sections of the Indian Press on June 13th and 14th.

(c) No Sir. The question does not arise.

Non-aligned nations group

943. SHRI T. ANJIAH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the concept of non-alignment is gaining strength in other countries; and

(b) if so, what is the number of countries which are likely to join the non-aligned nations group?

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

(b) Three countries are expected to participate, in an appropriate capacity, in the Belgrade meeting of Foreign Ministers of Non-aligned countries which is now in session—'Djibouti as a member, Namibia represented by the Council for Namibia as an observer and Pakistan as a guest.

Secret ballot for the election of union leaders

944. SHRI T. ANJIAH;

SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enact a law providing for secret ballot for the election of office-bearer of trade unions and also for the recognition of only one union, where the unions are more than one;

(b) if so, by when a Bill to give effect to the proposal is likely to be brought before Parliament;

(c) whether any of the Central trade unions are against the provision for secret ballot; and

(d) if so, what are their names?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) and (b) These questions are being considered in the overall context of the Industrial Relations Bill, which would be introduced in Parliament soon.

(c) and (d) The Report on Comprehensive Industrial Relations Law adopted on 21 September 1977 by the Committee on Comprehensive Industrial Relations Law and Composition of Indian Labour Conference, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library, contains, *inter alia*, the views of the representatives of the Central Trade Union Organisations.

Membership of Non-aligned Group for Pakistan

945. SHRI DINESH SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pakistan Government has expressed a desire to join the non-aligned group; and