

Use of Napalm and other incendiary weapons

1475. SHRI AWADHESHWAR PRASAD SINHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts was held recently in Geneva under the aegis of U.N.;

(b) whether it had considered the question of the use of napalm and other incendiary weapons; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) The Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts was held in Geneva from 20th February to 29th March, 1974, under the auspices of the Swiss Government.

(b) and (c). The Diplomatic Conference set up an Ad-hoc Committee to discuss the question of weapons, including napalm and incendiary weapons, which may cause unnecessary suffering or have indiscriminate effects. The matter was subsequently examined in a Conference of Government experts held in Lucerne (Switzerland) during October 1974. No conclusions have so far emerged. The matter is likely to be considered further at the second Diplomatic Conference to be held in Geneva from 3rd February, 1975.

Agreement with GDR and Sudan

1476. SHRI RABI RAY:
SHRI H. S. NARASIAH;
SHRI J. S. ANAND;
SHRI L. MAHAPATRO;
SHRI RAJ NARAIN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has signed agreements with both the President of Sudan and the Prime Minister of GDR who have recently visited India; and

(b) if so, what are the main features of the agreements?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) and (b). An Agreement on Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation between the Government of India and the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan was signed by the Foreign Ministers of the two Governments on November 28, 1974 during the State visit to India of President Nimeri of Sudan from November 26, to December 1, 1974. The main features of the agreement are:

- (i) exchange of personnel for training purposes.
- (ii) exchange of visits of experts and Government officials.
- (iii) provision of the services of experts in all fields.
- (iv) exchange of technical documents including feasibility studies.
- (v) cooperation in scientific research work.
- (vi) setting up of the Joint ventures.
- (vii) cooperation between production enterprises by exchange of technology for solving technical problems and increasing productivity.
- (viii) taking necessary steps to encourage tourism between the two countries.

With regard to the GDR, an Agreement setting up a Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation between the two countries was signed in New Delhi on the 1st December, 1974.

The Commission would operate at the level of Ministers, who would be assisted by experts from both sides. It would review the entire range of economic cooperation between the two countries and recommend ways of strengthening this cooperation. Meetings of the Joint Commission would generally be held annually in either country alternately.

The agreement provides for the exchange of Scientific personnel and documentation, joint research programmes, cooperation in planning, and the expansion and promotion of trade between the two countries.

Indo Japan Bilateral Annual Meeting

1477. SHRI H. S. NARASIAH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of discussion held recently by India and Japan at the two day annual bilateral consultative meeting; and

(b) the economic and technical fields in which both the countries have decided to expand their cooperation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) The 9th round of the annual Indo-Japanese bilateral talks covered a wide range of subjects including a review of the international situation, regional matters as well as bilateral relations.

(b) The discussions also covered bilateral relations in the economic and technical fields and the potential for their expansion in the future.

Foreign assistance in the fields of Iron Ore and Manganese Mining

1478. SHRI H. S. NARASIAH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to seek cooperation from both the Western countries and the Soviet Union in supplementing India's own efforts in the field of iron ore and manganese mining; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Visit of U.S. Industrialists to India

1479. SHRI S. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of U.S. industrialists is likely to visit India during this month; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) Yes, Sir, they are already in India.

(b) A US Trade Mission (A Specialised Mining/Mine Plant Processing/Earth-moving and Construction Equipment Trade Mission) sponsored by the US Department of Commerce is on a visit to India (November 30--December 14, 1974). The objective of the Trade Mission is to evaluate the Indian market for a wide range of US mining construction and earth-moving equipment and to explore the possibilities for specific agency arrangements, distributorships, joint-ventures, and direct sales.