

(a) whether the U. N. Military Observers Team in Jammu and Kashmir has been allowed to expand its activities and if so, the details and the reasons thereof; and

(b) whether the United Nations Military observers Group for India and Pakistan, as directed by the U. N. O., has requested for the help a third party in its work and if so, Government's reaction in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) Under the Karachi Agreement, UNMOGIP had been entrusted with the work of supervision of the 1949 Cease Fire Line in Jammu & Kashmir. The UNMOGIP has not been entrusted with any responsibility in regard to the present line of control. Therefore, the question of expanding its work in Jammu & Kashmir does not arise.

(b) The Government of India are not aware whether UNMOGIP has asked any third party to help in its work.

SIXTH FINANCE COMMISSION

*524. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the study-group recently appointed by Government on Centre-State finances has suggested a widening of the scope of work of the Sixth Finance Commission;

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions made by the group;

(c) what is the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) whether the suggestions will be considered by Government while appointing the Sixth Finance Commission ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. ANAND) : (a) to (d) The suggestions

are under consideration and will be kept in view in finalising the terms of reference of the Sixth Finance Commission.

LOSS DUE TO SUSPENSION OF FOREIGN AID

*525. SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state?

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to ensure that the industries do not suffer for want of essential goods as a result of the suspension of aid by USA and Japan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) Only the States suspended a part of their non-project war time stocks. To meet the urgent needs of industry Government are arranging alternative sources of supply from free world areas or from other available sources and where imports have necessarily to be made from the United States, free foreign exchange is being made available, to the extent possible. Every effort is being made to ensure that the implementation of production in industry is not affected on account of stoppage of aid by the US.

AIR SERVICES BETWEEN INDIA AND MAURITIUS

*526. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India and the Government of Mauritius have discussed the possibilities of introducing air services between the two countries; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussion.

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN NIGAM) : (a) and (b) An air services agreement between India and Mauritius was signed in New