

FACILITIES TO RUSSIAN SHIPS FOR REPAIRS AT INDIAN PORTS

580. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA:
SHRI M. K. MOHTA:
SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY:
SHRI K. C. PANDA:
SHRI SUNDAR MANI
PATEL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have decided to provide facilities to the Russian ships for repairs at Indian ports;

(b) if so, what are the terms of such facilities being provided to the Russian ships; and

(c) whether there has been any criticism of such a concession being given to the Russians in the country and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH MAHIDA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

PURCHASE OF SUBMARINES AND NAVAL VESSELS FROM RUSSIA

581. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA:
SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY:
SHRI M. K. MOHTA:
SHRI SUNDAR MANI
PATEL: SHRI K. C. PANDA:
SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: SHRI
GANESHI LAL
CHAUDHARY: SHRI
NAWAL KISHORE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have decided to purchase more submarines and other naval vessels from the Soviet Union;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have a plan to create sufficient naval strength to meet the potential dangers from

enemies in the Indian ocean and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH MAHIDA): (a) and (b) The question of acquisition of additional Naval craft including submarines is under consideration.

(c) The position is reviewed periodically. It will not be in public interest to disclose details.

ROLE OF SOVIET FORCES IN WEST ASIAN CRISES

582. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: SHRI
M. K. MOHTA: SHRI S. S.
MARISWAMY: SHRI K. C.
PANDA: SHRI SUNDAR MANI
PATEL: SHRI NIRANJAN
VARMA: SHRI J. P. YADAV:
SHRI SRI KANT MISHRA: SHRI
N. K. SHEJWALKAR: SHRI
SUNDAR SINGH
BHANDARI: SHRI PREM
MANOHAR: SHRI LAL K.
ADVANI: DR. BHAI MAHAVIR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 10,000 Soviet Air Force men and soldiers are openly fighting along with the U.A.R. forces against Israel:

(b) whether there has been large scale Soviet Naval build up in the Mediterranean;

(c) whether this open Russian involvement in the West Asian crisis has evoked criticism from all quarters; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government of India in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH):

(a) Government have seen reports about the presence of Soviet Defence