

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the agreed formula finally arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIVINOD KHANNA): (a) to (c) Government policy regarding travel of Pakistani nationals to India is worked out through a process of consultation and coordination between the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of External Affairs. The process of consultation and coordination had led to the decision to introduce pre-verification for Pakistani nationals.

Communication infrastructure in Myanmar

1621. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the action taken to develop the communication infrastructure in Myanmar who is to share its border with India for the prosperity of entire region connecting India's North East to South Asia in view of reluctance of Bangladesh to offer transit facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): In order to develop better connectivity with Myanmar, India has taken up several mutually beneficial cross-border projects; India has upgraded the 160 km. long Tamu-Kalemyo-Kalewa road across Manipur and has also undertaken to maintain it for 6 years; India has also agreed to build the Rih-Tiddim and Rih-Falam road sections from Mizoram at the request of Myanmar. A detailed project report is being prepared for a multi-modal transport project involving development of a highway from Kaletwa to Indo-Myanmar border at Mizoram and upgradation of Sittwe port in Myanmar. In addition, a highway project connecting India-Myanmar-Thailand from Moreh (Manipur) to Mae Sot (Thailand) has been agreed between the three countries.

In the area of telecommunications, there is a proposal to establish hotlines between two banks of India and Myanmar in the border areas. The establishment of telephone link will help in the operationalisation of L/C business and streamline the trade transactions. ISRO has assisted Myanmar in setting up of a Data Processing Centre in Myanmar for remote

sensing applications and agreed to supply satellite data free of charge for two years.

The infrastructure projects will help build long-term linkages between our North-Eastern States and Myanmar and will help promote trade, travel and people-to-people contacts.

Support to people of Indian Origin in Fiji

1622. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that people of the Indian origin in Fiji have sought Indian support for their struggle for economic, political and human rights there;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) to (c) The Government of India is engaged with the Government of Fiji as well as with leaders of the people of Indian origin in Fiji, with a view to ensuring equitable political, economic and social rights for all its citizens.

In addition, Government is working with the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG), of which India is a member, to keep Fiji on its agenda until the resolution of the Constitutional case on power sharing.

Indo-US treaty on non-extradition

1623. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-US treaty on non-extradition to third countries signed between the USA and India ensures immunity to armed forces; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOOD KHANNA): (a) and (b) According to the agreement