

- (ix) Setting up of more Youth Hostels.
- (x) Holding of International Youth Cultural Festival.
- (xi) Issue of commemorative coins and stamps.
- (xii) Organisation of special programmes by the National Service Scheme Units and the Nehru Yuvak Kendras.
- (xiii) Institution of National Youth Awards.

Arms Talks Between USA and USSR in Geneva

1269. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether arms talks between USA and USSR scheduled to be held in Geneva on March 12, 1985, have taken place and whether we have received authentic reports about the proceedings thereof;

(b) if so, the details of the subjects discussed and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the prospects of arriving at an agreed settlement about nuclear disarmament involving all the nuclear powers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :

(a) to (c). The USA and USSR commenced arms negotiations in Geneva on March 12, as scheduled. According to the joint statement issued by the U.S. Secretary of State and the Soviet Foreign Minister on 8th January, 1985, the subject of these negotiations will be "a complex of questions concerning space and nuclear arms—both strategic and intermediate range—with all the questions considered and resolved in their inter-relationship".

By mutual agreement the two negotiating parties have agreed to keep the pro-

ceedings of their talks confidential. The other three nuclear weapon powers—the United Kingdom, France and China—are not parties to these talks.

Grant of Pension to Freedom Fighters

1270. SHRI NARSINGRAO SURYAWANSHI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) how many cases of grant of pension to Freedom Fighters have been received by Government during the last three years from Karnataka and Bidar respectively;

(b) how many of these have been settled and pension orders released year-wise so far; and

(c) what problems are being encountered in disposing of unsettled cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) 5489 applications have been received from Karnataka (including Bidar district) till 28th February, 1985 under the liberalised Pension Scheme affective from 1st August, 1980.

(b) The number of cases in which pension to Freedom Fighters of Karnataka State (including Bidar district) was sanctioned and rejected are as follows :

Year	No. of pensions	
	Sanctioned	Rejected
1982	434	620
1983	344	440
1984	301	1954

(c) Most of the cases are pending because of Non-receipt of reports from the State Government.

Setting up of One Star Hotels by I.T.D.C.

1271. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :