

Mrs. Gandhi visit to U.K.

4579. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the erstwhile Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi was granted diplomatic passport on the condition that she will not participate in political parties abroad;

(b) if so, whether he is aware that Smt. Gandhi violated the conditions and in speeches/interviews etc. in London she justified imposition of emergency;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what action, if any, is proposed to be taken on charges of violation of the conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU): (a) A diplomatic passport of three months' validity was issued on 25th October 1978 to Smt. Indira Gandhi on production of the order of the Special Judge, Delhi, and the Special Metropolitan Magistrate, Delhi, permitting her to go abroad. She also furnished an undertaking as required in terms of Notification G.S.R. 293(e), dated 14th April 1976, issued by the Ministry of External Affairs. There was no condition about non-participation in "political parties."

(b) to (d). It is true that Smt. Gandhi justified the emergency in her speeches and interviews, but the Courts conditions did not impose any restriction on her speeches and interviews in Britain. However, the Special Judge, Delhi, in his order dated 3-10-1978, had, among other things, stated: "It is presumed that she will not indulge in any unlawful activities and her counsel is prepared to give such an undertaking."

3650 L.S.—9

Linking Tibet with Bay of Bengal

4580. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:

SHRI S. R. DAMANI:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRI SHYAM SUNDER GUPTA:

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA:

SHRI SAROJINI MAHISHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen the press reports published in the Bilitz' dated the 18th November, 1978 under the heading Linking Tibet with Bay of Bengal through Chinese tactics;

(b) whether Government is keeping a vigilant eye on the evil emergence of a Peking-Dacca-Kathmandu Axis; and

(c) what is reaction of the Government of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) to (c). Government have seen the press report in question. Government are fully vigilant about safeguarding the security of Eastern India. They see no present evidence for the conclusions expressed in the report. Government remains committed to seeking an improvement of relations with China on the basis of Five Principles. With Nepal and Bangladesh, a significant improvement of relations has been registered on the basis of beneficial bilateralism.

Former Secretary of ICCR

4581. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the former Administrative Officer of In-