

(c) the extent to which the meeting of Indo-US Joint Commission will be more favourable to India than that of Indo-USSR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Minister of External Affairs had a meeting with US Secretary of State on 1 October, 1982. They discussed a wide range of issues relating to international relations and also to the development of Indo-US ties. The discussion did not specifically relate to the subjects likely to be taken up at the next meeting of the Joint Commission.

(c) It would not be possible for the Government of India to compare and comment on which of the two joint commissions, Indo-US Joint Commission or the Indo-USSR Joint Commission, would be more favourable to India. Both Joint Commissions are for mutual benefit and serve useful purposes.

Moral and material help for liberation of Namibia

3165. SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of the liberation of Namibia was discussed in New Delhi, recently;

(b) whether Shri San Hujoma, the President of the SWAPO has requested the Government for the moral and material support to the struggle for the independence of Namibia; and

(c) if so, reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) During our discussions with Shri Sam Nujoma, President of SWAPO, we reiterated our consistent policy of moral, material and diplomatic support to liberation movements in Southern Africa, and

assured him of India's continuing support to the struggle for the independence of Namibia.

Difference in income limit of parents of SC/ST Students in states for Scholarships

3166. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there prevails a difference in the income limit of parents/guardians of SC/ST students in different States who are getting the facility of scholarship and other benefits;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to make a uniform law to be followed in each State to equalise this level; and

(c) whether Government propose to increase the income limit in view of the level of income-tax exemption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) to (c) The income limit for the award of State sector scholarships and other benefits varies in the different States, though in a number of States no income-limit of parents/guardians for SCST students is prescribed and in a few others it is linked with income tax exemption limit. Decisions in this regard are made by the State Governments and are reviewed by them from time to time.

Setting up of joint ventures with Saudi Arabia

3167. SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of industrialists, businessmen and bankers from Saudi Arabia visited India during November, 1982 to explore the possibilities of setting up joint ventures, increasing trade exchanges and collaborating with Indian parties in number of areas;

(b) if so, the outcome of their discussions with the private and public sector