

As reported by N.D.M.C., there is some dispute regarding the period of service for eligibility of a teacher in order to be able to get the Selection Grade. As soon as the issue is decided, Selection Grade scales will be awarded to the teachers.

Us Military Activities in Indian Ocean

8983. SHRI M.S.K. SATHIYENDRAN:
SHRI PIYUSH TIRKI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the United States is going to share some of its self-imposed military responsibilities in the Far-East and the Pacific and in this way some of the U.S. Forces deployed in the region could be diverted to India's neighbourhood in the Indian Ocean ;

(b) if so, what is the detailed report of U.S. military activities in the Indian Ocean ; and

(c) what is the reaction of the Government in this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A.A. RAHIM) : (a) There have been reports that Japan is increasing its defence expenditure, partly in response to U.S. insistence that it must take on a larger share of defence responsibility. Japan's defence expenditure in the year 1983-84 is budgeted at US \$11.82 billion. This represents an increase of 6.5% over last year. The Prime Minister of Japan has also been reported as stating that in order to secure maintain the ocean lines of communication, Japan's defences in the ocean should extend over several hundred miles, which would enable Japan to defend the sea lanes between Guam and Tokyo and between the strait of Taiwan and Osaka.

(b) Since the fall of the Shah of Iran, the U.S.A. has increased its military presence in the Indian Ocean. More than one carrier task force has been deployed on a regular basis and a programme for expanding and improving military facilities available to the U.S.A. in the Indian Ocean littoral is being undertaken. A Rapid Deployment Force of over 200000 men which

could be speedily moved to areas of crises, has also been established. More recently, with effect from 1st January, 1983 a Unified Command has been set up which according to U.S. sources, will have operational responsibility for South West Asia. The Rapid Deployment Force will function under this command.

(c) India has consistently opposed Great Power military presence in the Indian Ocean as it introduces new tensions and conflicts in our neighbourhood and constitutes a threat to peace and stability. India is working with other littoral and hinterland states to implement the U.N. Resolution of 1971 which calls for the establishment of a Zone of Peace in the Indian Ocean, free from the military presence of the Great Powers. At the New Delhi Summit the Non-aligned countries pledged themselves to work for convening an international conference on the Indian Ocean in 1984, as decided in the U.N. General Assembly and also called upon the U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. to resume bilateral discussions for limiting their military presence in the Indian Ocean.

“मेरा गांव, मेरा जीवन” नामक बी० बी० सी० का वृत्त चित्र

8984. श्री केयूरभूषण
प्रो० रूप चन्द पाल
श्री सत्यसाधन चक्रवर्ती
श्री हन्नान मोल्लाह } : क्या

विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या “मेरा गांव, मेरा जीवन” नामक वृत्त चित्र ब्रिटिश ब्राडकास्टिंगकारपोरेशन ने बनाया है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि यह वृत्त चित्र उड़िया लेखक और कलाकार श्री प्रफुल्ल महन्ती की बहुभाषी पुस्तक पर आधारित है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या बी० बी० सी० ने उन्हें रायल्टी का भुगतान किया है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री श्री ए० ए० रहीम (क) जी हां ।

(ख) जी हां ।