

(b) if so, results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM) : (a) The All Parties Conference convened by President Jayewardene in January this year with a view to finding a political solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka was adjourned after the meeting on the 1st June. Discussions resumed on the 23rd July. During his visit to India from the 30th June to the 2nd July, President Jayewardene discussed the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka with Prime Minister.

(b) No solution has emerged so far. We have impressed upon the Sri Lankan President the need to find an early political solution.

Chauhan's Broadcast over B.B.C.

1556. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :

SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY :

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA :

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI :

SHRI P. K. KODIYAN :

SHRI DIGAMBAR SINGH :

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

SHRI RASHEED MASOOD :

SHRI B. D. SINGH :

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that during the month of June, 1984 BBC allowed Dr. Jagjit Singh Chauhan and other Self Styled

Khalistan leaders to Broadcast, who made posionous and dangerous anti-India speeches and also threatened to kill the Prime Minister and also incite terrorism in India;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government of India thereto; and

(c) action taken by Government to counteract such anti-India propoganda ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM) : (a) Dr. Jagjit Singh Chauhan was interviewed on B.B.C. Radio 4 in the programme "World at One" on June 12, 1984. In the course of the interview he stated that in the Sikh History anybody who has touched the holy places has not been left alive, and within a few days there will be news that Mrs. Gandhi and her family have been beheaded. He also said that while he did not want any violence in Britain, "we shall have to continue this struggle back in the home, that is what we have to do and organise".

(b) Govt. of India condemn such inflammatory and highly objectionable utterances. Our views have been conveyed to the British Government through diplomatic channels in London as well as in New Delhi. The British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs has expressed regret at this interview and described Dr. Chauhan's utterances as "most objectionable". The British Home office is examining Dr. Chauhan's statements for possible violation of law. Government of India are watching the situation. A protest has also been lodged with the B. B. C.

(c) Our High Commission in London has been countering such objectionable propaganda by maintaining contacts with the Press and various individuals. We have also distributed video cassettes and audio cassettes to various Indian associations and individuals which explain the rationale of Government action in Punjab and depict the correct situation.