MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No.22, Shri Ajit Jogi.

SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Sir, ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have taken 20 minutes for the this question. *(Interruptions)*... We have taken 20 minutes already for this question. Mr. Jogi.

उन्नत परमाणु रिएक्टरों का निर्यात

*22. **श्री अजीत जोगी:** क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार यूरेनियम और थोरियम संजातों का ईंधन के रूप में प्रयोग करने वाले अनेक प्रकार के उन्नत परमाणु रिएक्टरों का निर्यात करने का विचार रखती है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या भारत ने यह प्रस्ताव पहली बार किया है;

(ग) किन-किन देशों ने इन परमाणु रिएक्टरों को खरीदने की इच्छा व्यक्त की है;

(घ) क्या इन देशों के साथ कोई समझौता हुआ है;

(ङ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(च) क्या इन रिएक्टरों का उपयोग केवल अनुसंधान के प्रयोजनों के लिये किया जायेगा?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) India had sometime ago offered a nuclear research reactor of an advanced design for export under the safeguards of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

(c) to (e) In response to an invitation from Thailand for making pre-qualification bid, India had submitted relevant information and an offer for setting up a research reactor. However, India was not among the bidders shortlisted for giving the final quotation. Since the offer was only as a pre-qualification bid, the question of signing any agreement did not arise.

(f) Does not arise.

श्री अजीत जोगी: सभापति महोदय, यह बड़ी खुशी की बात है कि विकासशील देशों में भारत ही एक ऐसा देश है जो परमाणु रिएक्टर बनाने के लिए पूरी तरह से आत्म निर्भर है। यह भी बड़ी खुशी की बात है कि पूरी दुनिया में केवल दो देश ऐसे हैं जो थर्ड जनरेशन ब्रीडर रिएक्टर बना सकते हैं और उनमें से भारत एक है। यह भी प्रसन्नता की बात है कि हमने अब इस टेक्नालाजी को एक्सपोर्ट करने की दिशा में कदम उठाया है। थाइलैंड को हमने आफर दिया है और मंत्री महोदय ने बताया कि वह मंजूर नहीं हो पाया है। पर यह अच्छी बात है। इस संदर्भ में मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि जब हम परमाणु रिएक्टर बनाने के क्षेत्र में इतना आगे बढ़ गए हैं तो क्या कारण है कि हम परमाणु ऊर्जा इतनी कम देश के अंदर बना रहे हैं। हर देश में एक आदर्श अनुपात होना चाहिए थर्मल पावर का, हाइडिल पावर का, न्युक्लियर पावर का। वह अनुपात हमारे देश में क्या है और उसमें से जो न्युक्लियर पावर हमको बनानी चाहिए उतनी हम क्यों नहीं बना पा रहे हैं। ढाई सौ-तीन सौ करोड़ रुपये प्रति वर्ष इस पर अलाट होने चाहिए। 50—60 करोड़ रुपया हम क्यों खर्च कर रहे हैं। इस बारे में मंत्री जी प्रकाश डालें।

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Member for the compliments that he has paid to our research scientists. The reactor that has been discussed in terms of export is, of course, a research reactor which is basically used for research purposes. As far as the power plants are concerned, we do have a programme for construction and that programme is going apace. The hon. Member may recall that, as far as the nuclear power stations are concerned, we are in a phase of erecting and commissioning 500-megawatt power stations and there have been some problems in capacity utilisation of some of the earlier power stations which are being attended to.

SHRI AJTT P. K. JOGI: My question was different, Sir. What I asked was that there is an ideal proportion between thermal, hydel and nuclear power. What is it for India? Why are we not producing that much of power in the nuclear sector? We have the technology; we have the resources and nuclear power is one of the

safest types of power to have. Why are we not doing that? That is my question.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: Sir, as far as the long-term questions of the proportions are concerned, these will be gone into by the Planning Commission at the time of realisation of the Ninth Five Year Plan. The hon. Member is right that India does give priority to nuclear power plants. I may mention that generally the cost of nuclear power, even under conditions of ideal capacity utilisation, per megawatt is marginally comparable with the more expensive of the thermal power plants that we have. So the cost of generation of nuclear power .....

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Sir, I need your protection. That is not the thrust of my question. I am asking about the ideal ratio for the country; how much should be thermal, how much should be hydel and how much should be nuclear. Where are we? *(Interruptions).* You have yet to become a Minister. Let him reply.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: Sir, I think developing an ideal mechanical proportion may not be an appropriate way for power planning in the long-run. We have really to look at cost considerations. We have to look at the emerging demands for power in the different grids of the country. It is on these grounds a power plant is set up on a five-year basis.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Sir, the hon. Minister is saying that there is no ideal ratio at all in the country. Is it the position?

, MR. CHAIRMAN: I think he means that no ratio has been given or laid down....

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: That is not correct. Perhaps the Minister is not ready with the reply. *(Interruptions).* Sir, we have the ex-power Minister who will tell him the ratio.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: The Minister does not know what the ratio is. Let him not say....*(Interruptions).*

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: Sir, we do have some broad guidelines. If youM look at the Fuel Policy Committee and the Working Group on Energy Policy, they have discussed some overall objectives. There has been some discussion that one can go up to 8 to 10 per cent of power capacity in the nuclear sector. But I would like to submit for your kind consideration that this is not an issue on which one can discuss in terms of mechanical ratio. It is a question more of adjusting to the emerging demand situation as it comes up.

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Sir, this is not a university class. This is Parliament. I have put a specific question. If he does not have the reply, he can say that.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: Sir, I am answering.

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: This is not a university class. You cannot give up lectures.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, no aspersions on universities.

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Sir, I have put a specific question. My question is: What is the proportion which is ideal for India?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: My answer is, we don't have a'mechanical proportion. There is a desired norm which has been vindicated sometime... *(Interruptions).*

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Sir, he can take the help of our former Power Minister.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: Sir, with due respect to the hon'. Member....

DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Sir, the Minister has not been able to answer this question. I can answer this question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You need not answer this question. Mr. Jogi, have you finished?

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Sir, there is no reply to my question. I would like to put my second supplementary.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you have, please put.

श्री अजीत जोगी: सभापति महोदय, परमाणु संयंत्र सब से स्वच्छ और सुरक्षा से पूर्ण होते हैं। भारत में अभी तक कोई दुर्घटना नहीं हुई, परन्तु रूस में चेरनोबल एक बहुत बड़ा कांड हुआ था जिसमें परमाणु रिएक्टर में दुर्घटना होने के कारण बहुत बड़ी जान और माल की हानि हुई थी। इस से पूरी दुनिया में जहां कि परमाणु रिएक्टर्स हैं बड़ी चिन्ता है कि हम इस तरह के सेफ्टी प्रिकांशस ले रहे हैं या नहीं जिस से कि हमारे रिएक्टर्स में, रूस में जैसाकि चेरनोबिल कांड हुआ था, वह न हो। इसलिए मैं आप के माध्यम से माननीय मंत्रीजी से जानना चाहूंगा कि सेफ्टी प्रिकांशस के दृष्टिकोण से हमारे परमाणु रिएक्टर्स कितने सुरक्षित हैं?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: Sir, our safety standards are very high. We meet global safety standards and the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy of the 10th Lok Sabha has gone into this question in considerable detail and it has shown that as far as each one of the safety standards for the country was concerned, our performance was very good and we took adequate safeguards and this was recognised all over.

SHRI M.A. BABY: Thank you very much, Sir. This is a very crucial question that we are discussing. I feel that this question should not be dealt with hon. Members in terms of those who have lost power, those who have gained power and those who have refused to assume power ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: It is a question of ideal sharing of power ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M.A. BABY: The overall development of our country is a crucial issue. Very recently I happened to have an opportunity to discuss this with some of the seniormost people who are dealing with nuclear power. I understand that the basic question was of not having earmarked sufficient resources for the nuclear power generation sector. So far as the overll power generation scenario is concerned, we are going in for joint sector, private investment and things like that. But this is an area where private sector would not come and even if they are willing to come we would totally oppose *it... (Interruptions)*... The hon. Prime Minister is present here. Since there is sufficient possibility for generating nuclear power in our country provided sufficient resources are earmarked for it, I would like to know from the Prime Minister whether the new Government would consider this as top priority and lay sufficient emphasis on this area and earmark sufficient resources. This is what I would like to know.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: Sir, we do give priority to nuclear power. But as I mentioned earlier and it is mentioned in our plan, relative cost considerations do become important for the development of power plant in the country. Nuclear power is something to which we are committed. We have a certain degree of capability both in design as well as in the erection and commissioning of nuclear plant. But the Planning Commission finalises the power plan in terms of the relationship between nuclear, thermal and hydel power, taking cost considerations as well as the regional distribution of demand. The source of power also depends on coal sources, hydel sources and transmission cost.

SHRI M.A. BABY: Will the hon. Prime Minister also respond?

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: Sir, while replying to Shri Ajit Jogi's question, the Minister mentioned that India was not included in the short-list. I would like to know the reason for India not being included in the short-list. When Chernobyl was mentioned, the Minister talked of the Standing Committee report on Energy. But we are also aware that Dr. Gopal Krishnan, who retired as the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Regulation Board had castigated the Government and had suggested that the Board really needed to be made more autonomous and more effective and. that it should not remain

just a subordinate department of the Science and Technology Ministry. Or otherwise, the safety standards will not be a reality, but only routine kind of complaints and reports on these incidents will continue be made. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister wheather the so-called conformity with the international standards in a formalistic sense will satisfy him or whether he will take into account the recommendations, suggestions and criticisms which Dr. Gopalakrishnan has made. If this has already been done, what steps have been taken in this connection?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: The Government will always take into account the public discussion on the question of nuclear safety... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: My question (a) pertains to shortlisting. Do you know the reasons for it?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: May I submit for the hon. Member's consideration that the Standing Committee on Energy has discussed this question in considerable detail? For example, the kind of incidents that we have had in India—there have been one or two incidents which have been referred to by the hon. Member earlier—are very different from the kind of incidents which the hon. Member has referred to; for instance, the Chernobyl incident. Our safeguards and our abilities to be able to isolate any untoward incident is much higher as documented by studies of earlier incidents. I might also mention the former Chairman's statement. He had, a few weeks before, given a very detailed statement which is very eulogistic about India's performance on safety standards. However, as I said, this is a subject on which the Government would look into any specific comments made. But all the specific suggestions which were made have been gone into in considerable detail by the Committee under the Chairmanship of hon. Jaswant Singhji. It is a very good report...

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: I am referring to the developments which took place after the submission of that report. Dr. Gopalakrishnan's statement and criticisms and suggestions have been made almost a year after the submission of that report. Why is the Minister, unfortunately, harping upon and harking back to the Jaswant Singh Committee's report alone? What I am interested in knowing is: what steps have been taken by the Government or by the Department of Science and Technology, which is under the Prime Minister, to rectify the mistakes or defects that have been pointed out? I would also like to know whether it is proposed to transfer it from the Department of Science and Technology and make it a more scientific and an autonomous organisation.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: Sir, I referred to the Standing Committee's Report on Energy just because the specific recommendations which had been made were gone into by that Committee. At present, we do not see any reason to change the systems that we have. And as I said, the Chairman himself, a few weeks before, had made a speech which the hon. Member also is referring to. The statement more or less corresponds to what I am saying.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, looking to the requirement of the country so far as energy is concerned, we did not have no opportunity of discussing any of the mid-term reappraisal of the Plan. But, at the same time, there are three sources from which the energy is being re-generated; thermal is one, hydro is another and nuclear is the third. I do not know whether the hon. Minister will be able to tell us as to what the ratio which was fixed during the Eighth Five year Plan of all the three sectors was. Also, has he a clear idea as to whether he is going to achieve the nuclear power which, in fact, was proposed to be produced during the Eighth Five Year Plan? On that basis, I would like to put

this question, looking to the stocks of coal available. This is an exhaustible resource and more emphasis will have to be given to both hydro power and nuclear power. Unfortunately, in both the sectors, we are lagging behind and the emphasis is only on thermal power. What steps is the Government thinking of taking in terms of reducing this imbalance and of having a greater emphasis on the nuclear as well as the hydro power supply?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: Sir, the hon. Member is absolutely right in saying that there has been a slippage in the power targets of the Eighth Five Year Plan. It is only after we go through the fixation of the targets for the current year that we will be able to define slippage in relation to the Eighth Five Year Plan targets of the sub-sectors.

However, it is true that the slippage in the nuclear power sector has been relatively more. It is extremely important that we try to make it up, as far as possible in the current year, by completing all power projects, particularly those projects which would give us benefits in the next two-three years.

श्री भूपेन्द्र सिंह मानः सभापति महोदय, जो साइंस एण्ड टैक्नोलॉजी में रिसर्च एण्ड डेवलपमेंट का पार्ट होता है, अगर उसको इन्कलूड कर दिया जाए तो किसी भी चीज़ की कीमत बहुत बढ़ जाती है। तो क्या रिसर्च एण्ड डेवलपमेंट का पार्ट इन रिएक्टर्स में जमा करके, इनकी कीमत लगाकर के, एक्सपोर्ट करने की बात होती है या वास्तव में उनकी जो बिजनेस में बनाने की बात होती है, वह जोड़कर बात होती है? अगर इनकी कीमत रिसर्च एण्ड डेवलपमेंट के बिना लगाई जाए तो क्या देश में यह वॉयबल हो सकता है। बिजली लगाना और खास तौर से जहां बहुत डिमांड है, जैसे पंजाब में बिजली की बहुत शार्टेज है और वहां से डिमांड आती है हमेशा कि यहां रिएक्टर लगे, तो क्या रिसर्च एण्ड डेवलपमेंट का पार्ट निकाल कर अगर उसमें लगाया जाए तो क्या वॉयबल हो सकता है या नहीं और अगर नहीं तो क्यों नहीं?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: Sir, pricing of nuclear power machinery is done in manner that the R&D costs are distributed and the benefits of R&D are fully taken into account. In fact, R&D reduces the cost and our experience is that the costs of fabrication of, let us say, boilers for the nuclear power plants, would go down very substantially oyer a time. Of course, research and development reactors, like the one we are discussing now, are different in nature when compared to the pricing of nuclear power plants because they are of a much larger size and are of a different magnitude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 23.

Death of Women during Delivery

*23. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE to pleased to state:

(a) what are the schemes in progress regarding child survival and safe motherhood;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted regarding death of women during delivery; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINER K. ALAGH): (a) The Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme, launched in 1992, is being implemented in all the districts of the country.

(b) and (c) The National Family Health Survey conducted during 1992-93 covering 24 States and Delhi has estimated the average maternal mortality rate at the national level to 437 per 1,00,000 live births during the 2 years preceding the survey.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Where is the Minister concerned?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: Mr. Chairman, I have been asked to represent the Minister. I may please be permitted to answer the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you answering on behalf of the Minister concerned? Okay.