

(ख) से (ग) केन्द्रीय जांच ब्यूरो ने, भारत और स्विटजरलैंड के बीच समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर होने से पूर्व ही स्विस् प्राधिकारियों से सम्पर्क किया था।

Cost escalation of heavy water

1785. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRLA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the cost escalation in respect of heavy water per tonnes during the last five years due to delays and low capacity utilisation of heavy water plants; and

(b) what has been the impact on cost of power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Escalation in cost of production per tonne of Heavy Water for 1985-86 to 1988-89 due to lower capacity utilisation ranges from 175 per cent to 250 per cent for the different plants. Capacity utilisation has improved significantly in recent years.

(b) Cost of power generation has risen by about 3 paise/kwh over the last five years due to increase in heavy water cost based on pool prices.

Appointment of committee to examine lapses in purchase of ammunition for defence forces

1786. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what action Government have taken on public accounts committees recommendations for appointment of an independent committee to examine lapses in the purchase of certain ammunition for Defence Forces and to fix responsibility for substantial loss incurred by the failure of concerned officers; and

(b) what action Government has taken on its own when the lapses came to its notice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) The appointment of an independent Committee as recommended by the Public Accounts Committee is under consideration.

(b) Three Investigation Committees went into the cause of opening of lids and cracking of ammunition bodies in 1981, 1985 and 1986 respectively. The final view that emerged was that the defects of lid opening and cracking were due to inherent limitations in the prescribed material that was used viz., Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE). LDPE is susceptible to stress cracking due to ageing.

Repair of defective pieces by appropriate coating has been tried out successfully and action is in hand to repair all defective pieces.

Diversion of India-supplied zircaloy to Pakistan by a West German Firm

1787. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NTG a West German firm was sold Zircaloy in 1983-84

by the Atomic Energy Department which was diverted by that firm subsequently to Pakistan if so, the quantity which was sold and the terms and conditions of the sale;

(b) what were the reasons for the sale;

(c) the reasons for which no track was kept about the sold material; and

(d) whether any enquiry was made or is being made by Government into the matter if so, what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (c) Nuclear Fuel Complex (NFC), Hyderabad had exported about 2.2 metric tonnes of zircaloy tubes, rods and strips during 1983—85 in response to a request by M/s. NTG Nukleartechnik (GmbH (NTG) of Federal Republic of Germany. The decision of export such a quantity of Zircaloy was taken to prove acceptability of NFC Zircaloy products in the International market and to earn some foreign exchange. In the telex order for Zircaloy materials, NTC has stated that they were required for use in certain irradiation tests and had indicated that the supplied Zircaloy would not be resold

(d) The Government is awaiting clarifications from NTG regarding reports of diversion of Indian supplied Zircaloy to Pakistan.

Advisory group on capital goods

1788. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA
JAYAWANTRAO
PATIL:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the advisory group on capital goods industry, headed by Mr. Mantosh Sodhi, in final report to the Planning Commission has come out strongly against imports of capital goods equipment under

Tied-up Aids if so, the details in this regard; and

(b) what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAV SINGH SOLANKI): (a) The Advisory Group on Capital Goods Industry headed by Shri Mantosh Sondhi have recommended that to the extent possible, imports of equipment available indigenously should be avoided under "Tied-aid". Further, while tied aid cannot be wholly avoided, efforts should be made to use such aid for the import of components and for balancing equipment rather than the entire package of equipment for a project.

(b) The Planning Commission agrees with this approach.

Experiments carried out in the sphere of fusion research

1789. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of major achievement made by Prof. K.S.V. Sauthanam of TIFR, Bombay having repeated the experiment carried out in the west in the sphere of fusion research in the energy hunt; if so, what assistance Government contemplate for expanding the research on it;

(b) what is the scope and significance of this research achievement;

(c) whether nuclear fusion can be obtained through this method; and

(d) whether Government contemplates any steps to get off the laboratory bench for its production scale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE