

to the Company for taking steps to further improve its performance. No major/serious shortcomings in the functioning of M/s. HAL have been revealed during the last three years.

Employment in Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands

2039. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expert group has examined ways of increasing employment potential in Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands and made several recommendations for development of the areas; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government on the recommendations of the group?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The expert group constituted by the Island Development Authority has looked into the unemployment problems in A & N Lakshadweep Islands. The interim report of the group was discussed in the 4th meeting of IDA. The short term measures include;

(i) Implementation of 7th Plan schemes to be speeded up;

(ii) 2 new ITIs to be set up;

(iii) UT Administration to sponsor candidates for apprentice training schemes on the mainland;

(iv) Coaching/guidance scheme be started which will enable the qualified Islanders to compete favourably for available employment opportunities;

(v) In Port Blair some pre-selection training centres to be set up;

(vi) Efforts to absorb scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates

against reserved quota in national banking service and other spheres.

UT Administration is working out the detailed implementation plan for these short-term measures.

Possibilities of accidental contamination of environment and ground water supplies

@2040. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a potential danger from accidental contamination of the immediate environment and ground water supplies as happened in Morris county in New Jersey on two separate occasions; and

(b) whether decision to permit food irradiation will be reviewed in the light of known dangers to environment and human health?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The question of contamination of immediate environment of a nuclear power station has been studied and all measures are taken to eliminate this possibility.

(b) There is no danger to the environment from food irradiation facilities and hence there is no need to review the decision to permit food irradiation of certain food articles approved by the National Monitoring Agency.

R and D efforts of Atomic Energy Establishments

2041. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a breakthrough regarding the nuclear fuel in the

@Previously Unstarred Question 1682, transferred from the 9th August, 1988.

R and D efforts of Atomic Energy establishments;

(b) if so, whether this would be helpful in increasing the output of Atomic Power as alternative energy resource for power consumption; and

(c) by when it is likely to be put for commercial use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) A major break through in the area of nuclear fuel has been successful manufacture of mixed uranium plutonium carbide fuel for fast breeder reactors.

(b) This fuel, because of its higher breeding ratio, will permit better utilisation of natural uranium resources in fast breeder reactors and considerably enhance the nuclear power potential.

(c) Its commercial use can be anticipated only towards the early part of the next century when large fast breeder reactors are expected to be connected to the electrical grids.

Creation of a Warehousing base

2042. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation Ltd. has come out with a comprehensive package through the creation of a warehousing base for the benefit of Indian Exporters in the American mainland and to increase electronic goods exports from India to the U.S.A.; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the benefits and facilities provided under the project ESSO (Electronics Sales Support Organisation)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECH-

NOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Electronics Sales Support Organisation (ESSO) Scheme launched by Electronics Trade & Technology Development Corporation (ET&T), warehousing facilities would be provided to Indian Companies desirous of exporting electronic products to United States. All exports will be on C.I.F. basis. The exporters will be offered the facility of operating from ET&T's Office in California using its address on their Business Cards/Stationery which will enable Indian Exporters to operate virtually like an authentic US Stocking and Marketing Company. In the first phase of the implementation of the scheme, ET&T proposes to export good quality electronic components and equipments manufactured by Indian manufacturing units to USA. Actual exports to USA under this scheme are expected to commence in the near future.

तृतीकोरिन भारी जल परियोजना का निर्माण

2043. श्री राम जेठमलानी : क्या प्रधानमंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि तृतीकोरिन भारी जल परियोजना एक फ्रांसीसी फर्म मैसर्स ग्रैलप्रा के सहयोग से बनायी गयी थी ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह भी सच है कि इस परियोजना की स्थापना के संबंध में मैसर्स ग्रैलप्रा के साथ किये गये समझौते के उपबंधों के अनुसार निर्धारित परियोजना की निर्माण लागत, क्षमता-उपयोग, उत्पादन और परियोजना के लिये कर्मचारों की संख्या से संबंधित सभी आंकलन सर्वथा भ्रामक निकले हैं ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो समझौते के निबंधनों और शर्तों के अनुसार परियोजना