

ment. The Government's position has thus been fully clarified.

Setting up of an Atomic Power Plant in Orissa

307. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a committee headed by Shri M. R. Srinivasan to select a site for the proposed Atomic Power Plant in Orissa visited different parts of the State and conducted preliminary investigations;

(b) whether it is also a fact that after thorough investigation and discussions with the high level officials of Orissa, the Committee found a suitable place near Bejipur in Bhapar Block, District Puri;

(c) whether the Orissa Government had assured the Committee to supply water, land, power, construction and development of approach roads, strengthening of Hirakud Dam;

(d) if so, whether it is a fact that the Committee has submitted its report to Nuclear Board for consideration and final decision; and

(e) if so, what decision Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

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) to (e) Alongwith sites in other constituent States of Eastern Electricity Region, sites in Orissa, including the site at Bejipur have been examined by the Site Selection Committee of the Department of Atomic Energy to assess their suitability for setting up nuclear power stations. In the course of discussions with officials of the State Government of Orissa, certain assurances regarding infrastructural inputs were given. Report of the Site Selection Committee is under consideration of the Government.

Procurement of image processing system by the ORSAC

308. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in order to get effective implementation of different projects, the Orissa Remote Sensing Application Centre (ORSAC) has proposed to procure a medium level image processing system; and

(b) if so, whether Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has agreed to extend financial assistance; if so, to what extent and what is the likely total cost of the project?

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) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Orissa Remote Sensing Application Centre (ORSAC) has approached Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for support for a medium level image processing system. ORSAC and ISRO are having preliminary discussions on the matter. It is premature to arrive at any precise cost estimates.

Deprivation of civilian employees of RRL, Jorhat from the special duty allowance

309. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the civilian employees of the Regional Research Laboratory, Jorhat, Assam are liable to be transferred to any place in the country;

(b) what criteria have been laid down for entitlement of 25 per cent special duty allowance to the civilian employees of the Central Government serving in the States and the Union Territories in the North-Eastern Region;