

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Government have taken adequate measures.

Defection by an Indian Diplomat in Norway

1239. SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE; With the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian diplomat posted at Oslo had defected Norway more than a year ago;

(b) whether the said diplomat was involved in any embezzlement of funds;

(c) whether Government had taken any steps for his extradition; and

(d) if so, what was the response of Norwegian Government in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Sh. Harinder Singh formerly, First Secretary in our Embassy at Oslo had deserted on 19th June, 1984.

(b) Sh. Harinder Singh embezzled some funds from the Embassy.

(c) and (d) Government took up the matter of Sh. Harinder Singh's desertion with the Norwegian authorities both in Oslo and in Delhi. In the absence of any Extradition Treaty between India and Norway the question of extradition of Sh. Harinder Singh was not formally pursued.

Construction work at CMERI, Durgapur

1240. SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS; SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM;

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:-

(a) whether most of the contracts for civil construction work at Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute, Durgapur are always given to a particular contractor;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether this particular contractor is related to the top managerial people of CMERI, Durgapur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Discontinuance of collaborative projects of the Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute, Durgapur

1241. SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS; SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE;

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether the collaborative project of CMERI, Durgapur nos. 468.52.04 with SAIL, Ranchi and 421. MD, 12. with TISCO Jamshedpur of 1982 and 1980 were discontinued;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the discontinuation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Redressal of grievances of employees of the Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institution, Durgapur

1242. SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS; SHRI SHANTIMOY GHOSH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any attempts to redress the grievances of employees of CMERI, Durgapur by CSIR regarding nepotism, favouritism, injustice and victimisation by the local management;

(b) whether CSIR have made any enquiry about the actual state of affairs in CMERI; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE
THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE /

TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL); (a) There are n< general complaints about nepotism, favouritism, injustice and victimisation by the local management. However, as and when any individual complaints are received, the same are examined and appropriate remedial measures taken.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

National Computer Policy

1243. SHRI SURESH KALMADI-SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT;

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a National Computer Policy for the country;

(b) how many jobs are likely to be created during the Seventh Plan period as a result thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to ban the use of computers for office application?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL); (a) The Government has already formulated a National Computer Policy which was notified in the Gazette of India dated 31st August, 1985.

(b) According to the Report of the Panel on computer Manpower Development, set up by the Department of Electronics, 60,000 jobs will be created during the Seventh Five Year Plan, directly due to computerisation. Indirectly, the higher productivity and better decision-making facility by computerisation will increase national wealth which fed back into the newer economic activity will in turn create employment.

(c) No, Sir, because, there are numerous office applications of com-

puters which are beneficial for efficiency, productivity and quality of service.

Cost escalation in public sector projects

1244. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA;

SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state;

(a) whether there has been alarming cost escalation in respect of a large number of public sector projects in the key sectors like Power, Coal, Steel, Atomic Energy etc. and that the completion of major and minor irrigation projects has been taking nearly 20 years for completion; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the factors identified for the inordinate delay in the completion of public sector projects, the extent of their cost escalation as against the original estimated cost and the prospects of their completion in the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHARY); (a) Yes, Sir. There has been escalation in the cost of a number of Central/Public sector projects in Power, Coal, Steel and Atomic Energy sectors. As regards irrigation projects, it may be pointed out that irrigation is a State subject and these projects are planned funded and implemented by the State Governments. It is correct that completion of some major irrigation projects has taken 20 years or more.

(b) Details of the Central projects, costing over Rs. 100 crores each, being monitored by the Ministry of Programme Implementation and where cost escalation has taken place, are given in the enclosed Statement (See below). All Projects except the ones at SI. No. 21, 26, 29, 30 and 35 (5 in number), are, as of now anticipated to be completed within the 7th Five Year Plan.