

sovereignty and integrity in the contest of the threat posed by the acquisition of U.S. front-line technology by both China and Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO):
(a) to (d) Government have seen a press report to this effect. However, no authentic information about transfer of know-how to China and Pakistan by USA and stationing of F-6 aircraft in Tibet is available.

Government carefully monitor all developments having a bearing on our security environment and take appropriate steps to maintain full defence preparedness at all times.

Manufacture of Carbide-based compound by a Private Firm

1607. DR. C. SILVERA:

SHRIMATI USHA
MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have given access to the private firm for manufacturing carbide based compound in the Ordnance Factory, Bhandara;

(b) whether it was earlier decided by the Ministry to dispose of plant through Directorate of Supplies & Disposals, if what action was taken on that point;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 60 tonnes of the material has been produced in the Bhandara factory which has already been supplied to the Rourkela Steel Plant by a private party;

(d) whether the material produced has been rejected and the party

involved is trying to produce more; and

(e) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO):
(a) to (e) It was decided by Government to sell through the Director General of Supplies and Disposals a plant lying unused at the Ordnance Factory, Bhandara, subject to certain conditions. Following the advice of DGS&D for direct disposal, a Committee has been constituted by the Ordnance Factories Board to take further necessary action in disposing of the plant.

The Ordnance Factory, Bhandara, has utilised this point by executing in 1983 an order received from a private firm to supply 48 tons. It is not known whether this material was supplied by this firm to Rourkela Steel Plant and whether it has been rejected.

There is a request from the party for getting some more of this material to be produced from the Bhandara Plant. This is under examination by the Ordnance Factories Board.

Bookstall contract of Mrs. Gulab Singh & Sons

1608. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bookstall contract of M/s. Gulab Singh & Sons on expiry of the tenure on 31st December, 1984 has been terminated/not renewed due to their unsatisfactory performance;

(b) whether the bookstalls, counter tables and trolleys held by

M/s. Gulab Singh & Sons at New Delhi stations have been allotted afresh to the eligible existing partnerships of unemployed graduates at this station as required under the policy/rules of Government; and

(c) if not, by when Government propose to finalise reallocation of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The case is *sub-judice* as the party has obtained stay order from the Delhi High Court.

SC/ST Quota in Birla Institute of Technology, Bihar

1609. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that no quota for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students and teachers has been reserved in the Birla Institute of Technology, Mosra (Bihar); and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (b) The Institute reserves seats for SC/ST candidates for admission to Under-graduate courses.

No quota has been fixed for SC/ST candidates in appointment of teachers. However, in all advertisements it is notified that preference will be given to SC/ST candidates if otherwise qualified.

Canti Thermal Power Project

1610. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Canti Thermal Power Project in Bihar was scheduled to be commissioned in March, 1985; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay in its commissioning and by when the plant is proposed to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) and (b) The turnkey contract with BHEL for execution of Kanti (Muzaffarpur) Thermal Power Project stipulated commissioning of the two units of 110 MW each during July, 1983 and January, 1984 respectively. The first unit was commissioned in March, 1985, and the commissioning of the second unit is now scheduled in March, 1986. The main reasons for delay in commissioning of the project are:-

(i) Problems encountered by BHEL in piling work due to complex soil conditions; and

(ii) Constraint of funds.

Sharing of Ganga Waters

1611. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of occasions and the details of discussions Government have held with Bangladesh on the sharing of Ganga waters; and

(b) the reasons for which Government have not been able to reach an agreement with Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Discussions were held with Bangladesh between