

Complaints against the Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society Limited

1831. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently any representations/complaints against the Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society Limited from various forums, organisations and unions;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Representations/complaints from different forums, organisations and unions relating to different aspects of the Society's operation and functioning have been received including complaints against some of the officials of the Society and elected directors on the Board of Directors. They are being looked into by various agencies.

-, Political murders in Punjab

1832. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that political murders are on the increase in Punjab;

(b) if so, how many political murders took place during the period from 1-1-1985 to 2-5-85.

(c) whether motives behind such murders have been established;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to bring the culprits to book?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI-MATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) to

(e) There has been one case of murder of a member of a political party in Punjab during the period from 1.1.1985 to 2.5.1985. A case has been registered in connection with this incident and efforts are foot to arrest the culprits.

Drop in forest cover as revealed by satellite Photography

1833. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian forests are in poor shape and if so, the details of the actual drop in forest cover as revealed by the satellite photography as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' of the 22nd May, 1985; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the data of satellite forestry available with the Central Government authorities at Dehradun have been withheld from MPs who have been asking for during the last three years and if so, what corrective steps Government proposed to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN): (a) Indian forests have suffered substantial degradation due to biotic pressures. The National Remote Sensing Agency has, on the basis of Satellite Imagery, estimated that between 1972—75 and 1980—82, the forest cover has gone down as under:-

Year	Extent under forest cover in million hectares.
'972/75	55.52
1980/82	46.35
ESTIMATED REDUCTION ;	9.17

This estimate may need revision due to the following:

(i) Some of the imagery relates to periods during autumn when the trees

are leafless, which impaired reflectance of (he vegetation).

(ii) Some of the forest areas were not registered in the imagery owing to shadow and obstruction by cloud cover.

(iii) Young and immature plantations the canopy of which is not fully developed, cannot be identified as forest areas by satellite imagery.

(iv) The scale of the imagery being too small, small patches of forest areas were not registered, which resulted in cumulative error.

The figures arrived at by the National e Sensing Agency through imagery are being verified with ground truth,

(b) No, Sir.

Shri Longowal's interview to a London weekly

1834. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an interview given by Sant Harchand Singh Longowal to a London weekly; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government's views on the situation, in the Punjab have been made known to the information media in U.K.

Performance of the existing nuclear power stations

1835. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing nuclear power stations in the country are working, satisfactorily; and

(b) what was the economic feasibility and commercial performance of these power stations in view of production of energy during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, SPACE AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Investment in Atomic Power Stations, total electrical energy produced, and 'rate per unit' are given in the attached statement.

Statement

Station/Unit	Year of commercial operation	Sanctioned cost (Rs. crores)	Total Electrical energy generated till 31-3-1985 (Million Units)	Rate per Unit price / kwh
Tarapur Atomic Power Station				
Unit-I	1969	104.57	14184	34.89
Unit-II	1969		14612	
Rajasthan Atomic Power Station				
Unit-I	1973	73.27		
		10.35	6177	
		for Modification		
Unit-II	1981	102.54	3668	35.49
Madras Atomic Power Station				
		10.35		
		for Modification		
Unit-3	1984	118.83	1518	42.01

Notes— 1. When all the five reactor units are in operation, the sale of electricity yields around Rs. 15 crores every month.

2. The revenues are proportional to the "rate per unit" at which the prevailing "rates" are of the order of 34.89 paise, 35.49 paise and 42.01 paise per unit for Tarapur, Rajasthan and Madras respectively.

3. The rates themselves are limited by statutory regulations.