

(c) The demand for a legislative Assembly for the Union territory of Delhi is raised from time to time. The matter involves complex policies and issues which require in depth examination in all aspects.

**Training of a Woman Astronaut for Joint Indo-US Space Mission**

128. SHRI VISWA BANDHU GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a woman has been selected for training as one of the astronauts for the Joint INDO-US Space Mission on the Space Shuttle;

(to) if so, her name and background;

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, the details of the future plan in this regard; and

(d) the names of male astronauts selected for the purpose?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(to) Does not arise.

(c) The selection of the Indian Payload Specialist astronaut for flight on board US Space Transportation System (STS) is underway. The selection of the two final candidates is expected to be completed by July, 1986.

(d) Does not arise.

**Undesirable Activities carried out by Scientific Research Institutes**

129. SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA:

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any review of the working of the various institutes in the country

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engaged in scientific research and collaboration, to ensure that they are not used for carrying out undesirable activities detrimental to national security and integrity; and

(b) if so, what are details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) While no formal single review covering all institutions engaged in the scientific research has not been made several procedures and measures have been laid down to ensure that the activities of scientific research institutions are for promoting scientific excellence and national benefits.

Research programmes and progress of scientific research institutions funded mainly by the Government or Government Agencies are reviewed periodically and approved by Committees and Councils which have distinguished scientists as members. Where such institutions receive grants or supports from agencies abroad they enter into collaborations with foreign research organisations, reviews made by the Government Committees before granting approval.

R&D Units in Industry which make use of incentives provided by the Government for scientific research submit regular returns giving information on staff and facilities indicating to an extent the nature of the research work undertaken. Almost all the staff engaged are Indian nationals. Where foreign personnel are to be employed, the approval of the Government is required. Expenditure and facilities are to be appropriate to the requirement of the company. On the basis of periodical reviews carried out, approvals granted are renewed or withdrawn.