

(a) whether Government is aware of illegal immigration being done by Protector of Emigrants (PoE) offices in various parts of country with the nexus of POE officials and travel agents;

(b) whether Government has received any complaints against such irregularities; and

(c) if so, the action taken against these officials and travel agents?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAV): (a) to (c) Complaints are received from time to time alleging instances of illegal emigration by certain unscrupulous Recruiting Agents in collusion with some officials of the offices of Protectors of Emigrants. In such cases, appropriate disciplinary action is taken against such erring officials. Similarly, action under the provisions of the Emigration Act & Rules, is taken against the Registered Recruiting Agents. In the cases of Unregistered Agents, involved in sending workers abroad, FIRs are filed with the police authorities concerned.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Chairperson of NAC

3685. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Advisory Council (NAC) is going to be formed with Ms. Sonia Gandhi as its Chairperson;

(b) if so, whether Government would consider conferring the rank of a Cabinet Minister to the Chairperson; and

(c) if not, the detailed reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The Government constituted the National Advisory Council (NAC), on 03.06.2004, which however ceased to exist with effect from 31.03.2008. The Government has since constituted the NAC again on 29.03.2010 with Smt. Sonia Gandhi as its Chairperson.

(b) The Chairperson, NAC holds the rank and status of a Union Cabinet Minister.

(c) Does not arise.

Radiation leakage in Mayapuri

3686. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the incident of radiation leakage at a scrap market in Mayapuri Phase-II, Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps that are being taken for better treatment of the victims;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted into the incident; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

The Government is aware of the incident of discovery of radiation sources in the scrap market in Mayapuri, Delhi. Experts from Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB), Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), other units of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) have surveyed the area and recovered all the exposed radiation sources. After recovery operations, the area was surveyed again to ensure that elevated radiation levels do not exist. Seven persons who have been affected by radiation were admitted to various hospitals in Delhi and the doctors from these hospitals are in continuous communication with the medical officers of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai. One person died in hospital on 26.04.2010.

(c) and (d) As a first step, the recovered sources were examined at Narora Atomic Power Station (NAPS). Preliminary examinations have revealed that the sources have not been fabricated in India. Further investigations are underway to identify the origin of the scrap which contained these sources.

Radiation exposure in Delhi

3687. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of people with symptoms of radiation exposure have fallen ill recently in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether radioactive waste, Cobalt-60 was detected at a shop of scrap dealer in Delhi;

(c) if so, whether the Scientists from Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) and Narora Atomic Power Plant have tried to sanitise the place where radioactive waste was lying; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and responsibility fixed by Government for this negligent attitude?