

parison of cost between enrichment and reprocessing of nuclear fuel; and

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

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) to (c) The enrichment of uranium and reprocessing of spent fuel are two different and unrelated steps in the nuclear fuel cycle. Therefore, the costs are not comparable.

Destruction of Marine life along Umarsadi-Kesamba Area

*272. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKARA REDDY:

SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ordered an enquiry into the mass destruction of marine life along the Umarsadi-Kosamba area in Gujarat;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there have been similar incidents in the past; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for which preventive measures were not taken to check pollution by industrial effluents?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Government of Gujarat have reported that this has been looked into.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Minor incidents of this type have been reported in the past by the local people.

(d) There can be mass destruction of marine life because of a variety of environmental conditions and pollution caused by urban and industrial activity. Thus, large quantities of municipal sewage also deplete

the dissolved oxygen in the water and result in mass destruction of fish and other aquatic life.

The State Board is looking into the matter and industries are now installing pollution abatement devices.

Soviet offer for Setting up a Nuclear Power Station

*273. SHRI N. P. CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Soviet Union had offered to set up a 4000-MW nuclear Power Station in India;

(b) if so, whether this offer was conveyed to the Prime Minister during her visit to the Soviet Union;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Soviet offer was made first in 1977 by the then Prime Minister. Mr. Kosygin during his official visit to India;

(d) if so, whether Government have examined this proposal afresh and have agreed to accept the Soviet offer; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The possibilities of Soviet Collaboration in the setting up of a 1000 MW Nuclear Power Station in India were discussed at a meeting of the officials of the two sides during the recent visit of the Prime Minister to the Soviet Union.

(c) The then Soviet Premier, Mr. Kosygin during his visit to India in March 1979 had offered to assist India in setting up a Nuclear Power Station.

(d) and (e) Government is examining the proposal.