

Location of suitable sites for the establishment of Atomic Power Station

251. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1733 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st December, 1978, and state;

(a) whether Government have since received the final recommendations of the Atomic Energy Commission and of the working Group set up by the Planning Commission under the Ministry of Energy regarding the location of a new Atomic Power Station in the coastal area of Saurashtra in Gujarat;

(b) what are the details of tentative proposals in this regard; and

(c) by when Government propose to announce their decision on this long standing question?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. I U

(c) No definite date can be given as the matter requires a detailed consideration by concerned authorities.

Demand of people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands for democratic set up of their Territory

252. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the wide-spread demand of people of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands for securing some kind of democratic set up in the administration of the territory;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction on this question;

(c) whether any specific proposals are under Government's consideration;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when a decision on this question will be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government has yet to take a decision as to whether there should be any change in the existing administrative set up of the Union territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and if so, what should be the new set up.

(e) it is not possible to indicate any deadline in this regard.

Review of the functioning of the Department of Electronics

253. SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government propose to have an overall review of the functioning of the Department of Electronics;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the completion of the proposed Rs. 15 crore semi-conductor complex being set up at Mohali in Punjab is likely to be affected by the proposed review?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) and (b) With a view to having a quick review of Policies and organisational structures in the Department of Electronics (including the Electronics Commission), so that new directions of policy are identified as early as possible and organisation structures are fashioned to implement the new policies respectively, a small committee of Secretaries has been constituted. After its recommendations have been received the matter would be reviewed

by the National Committee on Science and Technology.

(c) No, Sir.

Setting up of States Reorganisation Commission

254. SHRI AMAR FROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up another States' Reorganisation Commission to consider bifurcation of bigger States and merger of smaller Union Territories with the neighbouring States; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Traffic accidents in Delhi

255. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing number of traffic accidents in Delhi;

(b) what is the number of accidents which took place in Delhi during the last four months and the total number of persons who died in these accidents;

(c) what are the reasons for increase in the number of traffic accidents in Delhi; and

(d) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to prepare an effective scheme to reduce the traffic accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) and (b)

There were 240 road accidents in Delhi during the period 1-10-1978 to 31-1-1979, and 54 persons were killed.

(c) and (d) Among the various causes for the increase in road accidents are the increase in population from around 40.66 lakh in 1971 to around 54 lakh in 1978, increase in motor vehicles from around 21,904 to 1957 to about 4,05,101 in 1977, the presence of about 20,000 registered and 30,000 unregistered slow moving vehicles which include tonghas, cycle-rickshaws, bullock carts, and horse-carts, existence of narrow and overcrowded streets in the walled city, inadequacy of transport to cope with the abnormal increase in the number of commuters and consequent overloading in public transport vehicles, and inadequacy of traffic police. It is seen that over a period of time there has not been a proportionate strengthening of the regulatory agencies as compared to the increase in the volume of traffic. Considering all these aspects an Expert Committee has recommended some increase in traffic control staff. Sanction for 184 personnel have already been issued in this regard in the first phase.

Congress workers arrested after the arrest of former Prime Minister

256. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked the State Governments to submit report on the total number of Congress workers who have been arrested after the arrest of the former Prime Minister of India; in the month of December, 1978; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.