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809. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Hindi typewriters at present in the Ministry of External Affairs:
- (b) the number of Hindi typewriters required in the Ministry; and
- (c) by when the required number of Hindi typewriters are likely to be procured for use in the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. KUNDU): (a) and (b) There are nine Hindi typewriters in the Ministry of External Affairs and this is the number required at present.

(c) Does not arise.

Hindi typewriters in the Ministry of Communications

810. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Hindi typewriters at present in the Ministry of Communications;
- (b) the number of Hindi typewriters required in the Ministry; and
- (c) by when the required number of Hindi typewriters are likely to be procured for use in the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) 78.

- (b) 78
- (c) Does not arise.

Policy on Nuclear Proliferation

†811. SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN:

SHRI C. P. MAJHI: SHRI JAGAN NATH BHARDWAJ:

SHRIMATI LEELA DAMO-DARA MENON:

to Questions

Minister of EXTERNAL Will the AFFAIRS be pleased to state the Government's present policy in regard to nuclear proliferation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. KUNDU): In accordance with its principled stand of total opposition to nuclear weapons, Government is against all kinds of proliferation of nuclear weapons. However, Government cannot adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), as it is an unequal and discriminatory treaty in its present form. Government is firmly committed to the policy of utilization of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and will not accept any interference in the implementation of this policy.

Accidents in Coal India Ltd. †812. SHRI BHOLA PRASAD:

the Minister of PARLIA-MENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

SHRI KALYAN ROY:

- (a) whether there have been fatal accidents recently in the Muslia and Chinakuri Coal Mines under E.C.L. of the Coal India Ltd.;
- (b) if so, what are the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Directorate General of Mines Safety has conducted any investigation into the causes of these accidents;

†Previously unstarred Question 483 transferred from the 24th November, 1977.

[†]Previously unstarred Question 462 transferred from the 24th November, 1977.