

Broadcast policy of the Calcutta Station of the AIR

1607. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Calcutta station of the All India Radio is continuing its policy of setting its programmes in various sections with the artistes, singers, dramatists and litterateurs who are supporters of Congress (I) and the CPI and is not involving those who support the Janata Party and the Left Front; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and for not giving the entire performance a new look and democratic understanding?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI LAL K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Indian scientists' views on nuclear energy for peaceful purposes

1608. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA: SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question 112 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 20th July, 1978 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's present policy of not undertaking nuclear tests even for peaceful purposes is a diversion from the policy which Government was following so far;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the change in the policy;

(c) whether Government are aware that the Indian scientists, by and large, are of the view that nuclear tests are necessary to exploit nuclear energy for peaceful purposes; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) to (d) After taking into account relevant factors Government have already taken a decision to abjure nuclear explosions even for peaceful purposes, and the decision has been announced both in Parliament and in international forums. The reasons for the decision have been indicated in my statement in this House on July 31, 1978.

Ministers owning private houses in Delhi

1609. SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Union Ministers who own houses in Delhi and what are the assessed values of their houses; and

(b) what are the names of the Union Ministers who are living in Government accommodation and have rented their own houses?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) and (b) Three Ministers own houses in Delhi. The wife of one of the Ministers also owns a house in Delhi. A statement showing their names, location of houses, their assessed value and whether they have been rented or self-occupied is enclosed.