

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS (SHRI OM MEHTA) : (a) The investigations have not yet been completed.

(b) Does not arise.

Self-Sufficiency Nuclear Fuel

1403. SHRI AWADHESHWAR PRASAD SINHA : Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are taking steps to achieve self-sufficiency in nuclear fuel and Indianisation of nuclear know-how and technology, and

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

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, sir,

(b) Fuel required for the Tarapur Atomic Power Station is slightly enriched uranium oxide. The raw material, *i.e.* enriched uranium hexafluoride is being imported and further fabrication to finished fuel is carried out at the Nuclear Fuel Complex, Hyderabad. Our nuclear power programme does not envisage the setting up of further nuclear power plants using slightly enriched uranium as fuel. However, work of development of uranium enrichment technology has also been recently initiated at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre. As for the fuel required for the CANDU reactors that form the basis of our nuclear power programme, we are self-sufficient.

Proposal to reduce the Posts in Gazetted Cadre in the Posts and Telegraphs Department

1404. SHRI VISWANATHA MENON : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to reduce in the Posts and Telegraphs Department the number of posts in the gazetted cadre from the level of the directors and above as a measure of economy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir. However, the position is constantly reviewed and posts not justified are brought under reduction, (b) Does not arise.

Postal Life Insurance relating to Defence Personnel

1405. SHRI VISWANATHA MENON : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposal to transfer certain items of work of postal Life Insurance relating to Defence Personnel from the office of the Deputy Director, Postal Life Insurance, Calcutta, to the Army Postal Services, Delhi has since been dropped and that the suggestion for the study of the Postal Life Insurance Organisation is being considered, and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Nil.

Representation regarding kidnapping of girl in Himachal Pradesh

1406. SHRI GANESH LAL MALI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation through a Member of Parliament during the month of February, 1974, regarding kidnapping of a girl in Kangra district, Himachal Pradesh;

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

(c) what action Government have taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is attached.

Statement

A representation of Shri Munshi Ram was received through Mrs. Mukul Banerjee, M. P. about alleged abduction of his daughter Miss Nirmala Kumari from village Jawali Tehsil Nurpui, Distt. Kangra- The matter was referred to the Government of Himachal Pradesh. The State Government intimated that partitioner's daughter Miss Nirmala, aged 20 years was neglected by her step-mother. She became intimate with one Shri Suraj Bhan. This fact was known to her father. On 3rd January, 1974