

INDIGENOUS FABRICATION OF NUCLEAR FUEL ASSEMBLIES FOR ATOMIC POWER REACTORS

803. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA :
SHRI VITHAL GADGIL .
MISS SAROJ PURUSHOTTAM KHAPARDE :
SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY :
SHRI MAQSOOD ALI KHAN :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA :

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the work for indigenous fabrication of nuclear fuel assemblies for atomic power reactors has started in Tarapur; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Indigenous fabrication of fuel assemblies for atomic power stations has been taken up at the Nuclear Fuel Complex, Hyderabad. So far 30 fuel bundles have been fabricated for the Tarapur Atomic Power Station (TAPS) and about 850 fuel bundles fabricated for the Rajasthan Atomic Power Project (RAPP). Further fabrication of fuel bundles is in progress. The capacity of fabrication facilities installed at NFC for the TAPS type of fuel is about 25 tonnes (150 bundles) per year and for the RAPP type of fuel about 100 tonnes (6600 bundles) per year.

PROMOTION TO THE GRADE OF SECTION OFFICERS

804. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA :
SHRI VITHAL GADGIL :
SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the rules governing promotion to the grade of Section Officers in the Central Secretariat;

(b) whether there have been any cases promotion of Section Officers by nomination by-passing the rules laid down in that behalf; and

(c) the number of Section Officers so nominated during the last three years and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Promotions to the grade of Section

Officers in the Central Secretariat Service are made in accordance with Rules 13 and 13-A of the Central Secretariat Service-Rules, 1962, and the Fourth Schedule thereto.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

GENERATION OF NUCLEAR POWER

805. SHRIMATI SITA DEVI : Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state the progress so far made in the generation of nuclear power in the country ?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : The Tarapur Atomic Power Station, the first atomic power station in the country, started commercial operation from October 3, 1969. It consists of two units of 210 MWe each and has upto the end of February, 1974 generated about 7580 million units of electrical energy. The first unit of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Project (RAPP), the second atomic power station in the country, started commercial operation from December 15, 1973 and is at present generating power at levels upto 140 MWe. Full power generation at 200 MWe is expected by August/September, 1974. The second unit (200 MWe) of RAPP and the first and the second units (235 MWe each) of the Madras Atomic Power Project are presently under construction and are expected to attain criticality in 1975, 1977 and 1979 respectively. The first and second units (235 MWe each) of the Narora Atomic Power Project which has been sanctioned only recently, are expected to attain criticality in 1981 and 1982 respectively. Full commissioning is expected a few months after criticality.

UNDER-UTILIZATION OF CASTINGS AND FORGINGS

806. SHRIMATI KUMUDBEN MANT-SHANKAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state ;

(a) whether it is a fact that the utilisation of both castings and forgings has been slow during 1972; and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there have been some difficulties in obtaining the indigenous raw materials; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken both for production and full utilization of the existing capacity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. B. RANA) : (a)

There has been an increase in production of both castings and forgings in 1972 compared to that in 1971 though it is still less than the installed capacity.

(b) Yes, Sir. Pig iron required for iron castings and tested quality carbon steels, low alloy constructional steels in the shape of blooms, billets, squares, rods, Hats etc., required for forgings were not available in sufficient quantities.

(c) The shortfall in the indigenous availability of raw materials is being met by imports as per policy. A Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of the Iron & Steel Controller to assess the requirements of pig iron for the consuming industries and to lay down suitable guidelines for allocation. For conventional types of castings and free forgings, creation of further capacity is not being encouraged.

CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES IN TRIPURA

807. SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of January 2, 1974 to the effect that anti-India views were being preached by the Christian Missionaries particularly by the doctors and priests of foreign origin among the tribals in Tripura; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) Government have seen the relevant news report published in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 2nd January, 1974. According to information received from the Government of Tripura, there is no specific information to substantiate the allegation made in the news report. They have also reported that neither any doctor nor any priest of foreign origin has remained in Tripura since the beginning of this year. The State Government are, however, maintaining the utmost vigilance.

F.M. (FREQUENCY MODULATION) PROGRAMME

808. SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposal for installation of F.M. (frequency modulation) broadcasting transmitter at Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay and Madras by the end of 1973 has since been shelved; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and its impact on the radio producing units in the country ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA) : (a) A scheme for installation of F.M. broadcasting transmitters at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras was included in the Fourth Plan and was expected to be completed by the end of 1973. The implementation of the scheme has, however, been delayed as it was intended to use only indigenously manufactured transmitters by Bharat Electronics which have not yet commenced production of this equipment. The scheme has not been shelved.

(b) Does not arise.

REDUCTION IN POWER RATES IN RAJASTHAN

809. SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a study team sponsored by Industrial Development Bank of India and Reserve Bank of India etc., had suggested reduction in the power rates by the Rajasthan Government for attracting industrial units in that State; and

(b) if so, the broad features of the suggestions made by the team and whether Government have obtained the views of Rajasthan Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b) The Industrial Potential Survey on Rajasthan sponsored by IDBI, RBI, ICICI, IFC and AFC in their Report finalised in August 1972 had suggested power tariffs in the State to be reviewed *vis-a-vis* the rates prevailing in other States, particularly because exploitation of the State's mining resources is contingent upon the availability of power at reasonable rates. Large-scale industries based on electrothermal or electro-metallurgical process also needed cheap electrical power. The report suggested that the electric power rate for such units should be in the range of 3 paise to 5 paise per KW and individual cases should be examined with regard to tariff rates by the concerned authorities on their merits. The Rajasthan State has yet to take a final view in the matter.

PRODUCTION OF CALCIUM CARBONATE ELECTROLYTIC MANGANESE DIOXIDE

810. SHRIMATI KUMUDBEN MANISHANKAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :