

SPACE RESEARCH PROGRAMME

*504. SHRI J. P. MATHUR : Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY/परमाणु ऊर्जा मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether with the recent Chinese and Japanese feats in orbiting satellites for a second time within a year, showing superiority over India in space research, the Government of India propose to accelerate their space research programmes;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any decision in this regard;

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, the details thereof; and

(d) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the negative, the reasons thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY/प्रधान मंत्री तथा परमाणु ऊर्जा मंत्री

(SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) India's programme for development of space research is indicated in the publication 'Atomic Energy and Space Research—A Profile for the decade 1970-80' issued by the Department of Atomic Energy, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(d) Does not arise.

BURNING OF A MUSLIM DEAD BODY IN MYSORE

*505. SHRI HAMID ALI SCHAMNAD : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS/गृह मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report that appeared in a Kannada weekly 'Jagadarshi' dated the 13th June, 1971, published from Mangalore to the effect that a dead body of a Muslim was forcibly burnt by some non-Muslims in the Hassan District of Mysore;

(b) if so, under what circumstances this incident took place; and

(c) the reaction of Central Government in the matter?

2—12 R.S./71

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL/गृह मंत्रालय और कार्मिक विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) According to the information received from the State Government, a Muslim suffering from Leucoderma died in Kenchammana Hoskote in Alur Taluk, Hassan District, and that the dead body was buried according to the Muslim religious custom. On account of superstitious belief that if the dead body of a person suffering from Leprosy was allowed to be buried it portended evil, a few Hindus in the village unauthorisedly exhumed the body and cremated it on 26th May, 1971. A case has been registered under section 297 of the Indian Penal Code and is being investigated according to law.

COCA-COLA

*506. SHRI CHITTA BASU:

KUMARI SHANTA
VASISHT :

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP
SINHA:

SHRI KRISHAN KANT:

SHRI ARJUN ARORA:

SHRI MAHITOSH PURKA-
YASTHA:

DR. SALIG RAM:

SHRI GOLAP BARBORA:

SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE/विदेश व्यापार मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether any step has been taken by Government on the question of replenishing the licence to the manufacturers of Coca-cola; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE/विदेश व्यापार मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b) An inter-ministerial committee has been set-up to consider this question, and their report is awaited.