

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Government have seen the press report.

(b) and (c) Cases of racial discrimination are to be reported to the Race Relations Board, set up by the U. K. Government under the Race Relations Act, 1968

The general assistance of the Indian High Commission in U. K. is always available to Indian nationals to advise them about correct procedures and in resolving to the extent possible difficulties which arise in connection with racial discrimination.

UTILISATION OF ELECTRIC POWER OF TARAPUR NUCLEAR POWER STATION

*245. SHRI J. S. TILAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the electric power generated at the Tarapur Nuclear Power Station is not being fully utilised by the Gujarat and Maharashtra States ; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) :

(a) and (b) The Tarapur Atomic Power Station has been generating steady power which is being supplied on a commercial basis from October 2, 1969. The entire power generated by this Station is being supplied to the States of Maharashtra and Gujarat. The generation of power is presently restricted owing to two limitations, namely (i) the need for certain modifications to the Switchyard erected and operated by the Maharashtra State Electricity Board and (ii) the necessity for strengthening the grid particularly in Gujarat.

STATEMENT OF GEN. KUMARAMANGALAM REGARDING ARMY

*246. DR. SALIGRAM :

SHRI KRISHAN KANT :

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent statement made

by Gen. Kumaramangalam (retired) to the effect that "the army is the least popular profession...very few people like to join it as a career unless most of the other avenues are closed. We get very few (officers) from those of higher grade, not in birth but in quality" ; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government to the Statement ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE, STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Government have seen a newspaper report more or less to this effect.

(b) Considering the large intake of officers, both regular and short-term, for the Army over the past few years, the response from persons wishing to join the Army is quite good, though there is room for improvements, particularly in the intake of Short Service Commissioned Officers in the technical branches. The shortfalls in the last few years, can amongst other factors, be ascribed to the inadequate response from the State Governments for making available civilian officers under the Compulsory Service Liability Scheme and the natural desire of Technical Graduates to go in for more permanent careers than Short Service Commissions in the Army. Special measures which Government have taken, including the establishment of Sainik Schools for preparation of boys for the National Defence Academy, and the Special Entry through the NCC, are expected to make up some of the shortfalls.

ट्रेक्टर उपहार योजना

*247. सरदार गुरुचरण सिंह तोहडा : क्या वैदेशिक व्यापार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) ट्रैक्टर उपहार योजना के अन्तर्गत सितम्बर, 1969 तक भारत को कुल कितने ट्रैक्टर प्राप्त हुए ;

(ख) क्या यह योजना सफल रही है ; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो यह कब तक जारी रखी जायेगी ?