RAJYA SABHA

Friday the 19th February, 1960/the 30th Magha, 1881 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the Clock, Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

STATEMENT RE RADIO-ACTIVE FALL-OUT FROM THE ATOMIC TEST IN SAHARA

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Lakshmi Menon will read a statement on behalf of the Prime Minister about the atomic fall-out.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): Sir, on behalf of Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, I would like to make the following statement.

As Members of Parliament had expressed some anxiety about the consequences of the testing of an atomic device by the French Government on February 13, 1960 at Reganne in the Sahara, the Prime Minister requested Dr. Homi Bhabha, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, to send information about the possible fall-out in India. He has sent a note dealing with fall-out in India from atomic tests during the last few years.

In regard to the recent French atomic test, he has pointed out that the radio active cloud will probably take some days to pass over India. So far no increase in the radio activity of the atmosphere from this test has been observed. If any such increase takes place within the next few days, it will certainly be observed. In his opinion, it is not to be expected that the fall-out will be anywhere near the danger level.

Then, Sir, there is a statement by Dr. Bhabha which is a long one and which I will, with your permission, place on the Table of the House.

[See Appendix XXVII, Annexure No. 17.]

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ANNOUNCEMENT RE THE DOMES-FIC WORKERS (CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT) BILL, 1959

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Rajabhoj has sent a letter to me, saying that he will not be able to be present today and he does not, therefore, wish that we should proceed with his Bill. He wants it to be taken up in the next Session. Now we will take up the next item on the agenda.

THE CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCE-DURE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1959

Dr. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, this is a Bill which has already been passed in the other House. The title of the Bill, as it has been given here, namely, that it seeks to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, section 198, is not very illuminating, and as such unless the people describe the section concerned, which was there in the original Bill, as introduced, they will not be in a position to know what the Bill contains therefore, with your permission, would like to refer to that particular proviso to section 198 of the Criminal Procedure Code which it seeks amend. Wherever it relates to bigamy, the person aggrieved has make a complaint herself or himself. But in the proviso to section 198 it has been stated as follows:

"Provided further that where the husband aggrieved by an offence under section 494 of the said Code is serving in any of the Armed Forces of the Union under conditions which are certified by his Commanding Officer as precluding him from obtaining leave of absence