

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS : The full text of the Agreement is not in my possession just now.

SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA : Sir, in view of the fact that the US Government has delayed in fulfilling the contract, do the Government have any proposal to make alternative arrangements of nuclear fuel for the Tarapur plant ?

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS : Sir, it is a matter which cannot be openly discussed in this House.

SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN : Sir, the decision of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission of the USA has created a situation whereby there will be a shortage of power in the Tarapur Atomic Power plant to the extent of 10 per cent, as a result of which, Maharashtra and also Gujarat might be affected adversely. Sir, this decision has also delayed the shipment of yellow cake which was to be supplied by the USA to our Atomic Fuel Reprocessing Plant at Hyderabad. So I would like to ask the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs whether the Foreign Ministry has directed the Atomic Energy Commission of India to set up our atomic plants in such a way that our atomic plants may, by and large, relax our dependence on American fuel and finance.

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS : Sir, there is no doubt that because of this delay, caused by this controversy in the US Congress we will be put to certain difficulties. But I would like to inform the hon. Member that no final decision has been taken by the NRC of the US Congress so far. They have only decided to give a hearing to the three groups and that has caused the delay.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question. C.B.I. Report on Construction of Treasury Room in G.P.O.

Kashmere Gate, Delhi.

"544. SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA : SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI : DR. V. V. STENGH :

The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Harsh Deo Malaviya.

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 1332 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 13th March, 1975 and state :

(a) whether the report from the C.B.I. regarding calling of tenders for the construction of treasury room in the General Post Office at Kashmere Gate, Delhi has been received;

(b) if so, what are its findings and the action taken thereon; and

i c) if not, the reasons for delay in submitting report by the C.B.I. ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The investigation report of the CBI was considered in consultation with the Central Vigilance Commission. It was decided on the advice of the Central Vigilance Commission that the fact of not taking adequate care in the matter of ensuring the required publicity for the call of tenders may be brought to the notice of the concerned Executive Engineer to avoid such instances in future. The Executive Engineer has accordingly been advised on 5-12-1975.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA : Sir, it is a very serious question because in the P & T, we often see big "garbaris". We know about the Kidwai Bhavan. Now, in this case as early as in 1973, tenders were invited, that is, on 20-7-1973 and the tenders were opened on 25-7-1973. In between there were one or two days of holidays. Similarly for the Underground and Overhead Tank and Pump-house at the post office in Lodi Road, New Delhi, the NIT was issued on 10-8-1973. And then Saturday and Sunday were holidays and again on the 14th, After four days, it was opened. It is a very serious thing. First of all, I would like to know why it is that when a CBI enquiry was instituted so early, no reply has come, why no action has yet been taken and why it is

that it took them such a long time to punish such callous indifference to the usual requirements.

SHRI S. D. SHARMA : Sir, the hon. Member, if he follows the answer, will see that the Department has not been lax at all. As soon as the matter was brought to our notice, we took note of it. The enquiry was given to the CBI. The CM report was expedited. It came. Then it was referred to the Central Vigilance Commission. After both had opined, the action as suggested or decided upon by the CVC has been taken by the Department. The Department has not been lax at all. The CBI report and the CVC consultation on that were completed, I think, in a very short time.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: May I ask the hon. Minister by what time the guilty persons will be punished?

SHRI S. D. SHARMA : We have already followed the opinion of the Central Vigilance Commission. I will just refer to the portion in the CVC's report which is applicable to the case in question.

As regards the allegation relating to the construction of Treasury in the GPO Kashmere Gate, Delhi the Commission would advise the fact of adequate care not having been taken in the matter of ensuring required publicity for the call of tenders may be brought to the notice of the Executive Engineer, with a view to enabling him to avoid such instances in future.

This is the CVC's recommendation and we have followed it fully.

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the CVC or the CBI has pointed out some lapses or faults of any officers in that department and, if so, what action have you taken against them.

SHRI S. D. SHARMA : The opinion of the CBI was this:

The second allegation that the work for the Treasury at Kashmere Gate

General Post Office was awarded to the contractor at rates higher than the prevailing rates has not been substantiated. However, from the above discussions of the matter, the other part of the allegation that adequate publicity was not given before inviting tenders has been fully substantiated. The lapses on the part of Shri H. K. Asthana and Shri S. B. Lai in being negligent in not checking the office copy and ensuring dispatch of P.W. 6 to all offices have been found. These are the officers. Then, the report of the CBI was sent to CVC. CBI said that the tender has not been given at a higher rate. But they found that the publicity that should have been given was not fully given. That is all. We went to the CVC who opined that the Executive Engineer should be advised that he should not commit this mistake in future.

SHRI S. D. SHARMA : We have abided by what the CVC has said.

Improvement in the working of Indian Foreign Service

•545. SHRI PRAKASH VEER SHASTRI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

श्री हर्षदेव मलवीय : सजा नहीं किया ?

भारतीय विदेश सेवा के कार्यकरण का सुधार

* 545. श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारतीय विदेश सेवा के कार्यकरण के सुधार के लिए नयी योजनाओं पर विचार किया जा रहा है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ तो क्या उन उच्च सरकारी कर्मचारियों की सेवाओं का उपयोग न किये जाने के मामले पर ध्यान दिया गया है जो कि सेवानिवृत्त हो चुके हैं या सेवानिवृत्त होने वाले हैं; और

(ग) नयी योजनाओं के कब तक कार्यान्वित किए जाने की संभावना है ?