

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports has taken up the matter with the International Olympic Committee urging it to go beyond lesser considerations and in the larger interests of ideals of human rights, compassion and solidarity, cancel the sponsorship of Dow Chemicals for the London Olympics, 2012, thereby apart from assuaging the feelings of millions of people, send a strong message the world over, for upholding the noble ideals of the Olympic Movement. International Olympic Committee has replied that the IOC and London Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games (LOCOG) were aware of the Bhopal tragedy when discussing the partnership with Dow Chemicals and that the Company did not have any ownership stake in Union Carbide until 16 years after the accident and 12 years after the US \$ 470 million compensation agreement was approved by the Supreme Court of India. IOC has further mentioned that they only enter into partnerships with organizations that they believe work in accordance with the values of the Olympic Movement.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Electricity Generated by NPCIL

1. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the action taken by Government to chalk out a plan to increase electricity generated by Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL) as recently it has been seen that some of the foreign NGOs are misguiding local people against Nuclear Power Plants as some foreign countries desire to derail our economical growth; and

(b) the reasons for Government not identifying such anti-social activities and take criminal action against persons of our country who are participating in this activity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) In the recent past apprehensions have been generated among the people about safety of nuclear power plants following the Fukushima accident in Japan. The national and international groups ideologically opposed to nuclear power exploited the situation by spreading misinformation. Recognising this, the Government and Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) have scaled up the public outreach activities manifold through structured awareness campaigns. The outreach programmes will be continued in a sustained manner. The public outreach programme

comprises of regular visits by the senior officials to surrounding areas and enhanced interaction with locals, visits of villagers, students and other members of public etc., to nuclear power plants, organizing awareness campaigns on nuclear power for various target groups – press & media, policy and decision makers, people's representatives, students & teachers and the public at large.

India cannot do away with the nuclear option considering its growing energy needs and the limited energy resources available in the country. Nuclear power is a clean energy option that can provide long term energy security to the country and address climate change concerns. Nuclear power is thus an important component of our energy mix and will be pursued, with full regard to safety, security and livelihood of the people. The Government/NPCIL have an ambitious plan for nuclear power expansion and will pursue it taking all the stake holders into confidence.

(b) Preliminary report indicate that NGOs from certain foreign countries are funding some NGOs in the country especially to NGOs working in and around Kudankulam area who are involved in the agitation against the nuclear power plants. Detailed investigation will reveal the source of funding and expenditure pattern of these NGOs who are opposing the Kudankulam nuclear power project. CBI enquiry against two NGOs has been ordered. Two criminal cases have been referred to Tamil Nadu Police for investigation.

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाळा : नमस्कार। उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से एक बहुत ही गम्भीर इश्यू पर सरकार से कुछ जानकारी लेना चाहूंगा और जानना चाहूंगा कि केन्द्र की सरकार इसके बारे में क्या कर रही है? पिछले दिनों परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग के माध्यम से बताया गया कि एक अणु ऊर्जा संयंत्र स्थापित किया जा रहा है। इसको लेकर हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी ने यह बयान दिया था कि कोई विदेशी एनजीओ है, जो इसमें गतिरोध पैदा कर रही है और हमारे लोगों को उकसा रही है। इसके लिए वह फंडिंग भी कर रही है।

माननीय उपसभापति जी, मुझे यह उम्मीद थी, प्रधान मंत्री साहब यहाँ आए थे तो वे बताते कि वह कौन सी विदेशी एजेंसी है, जो यह काम कर रही है? क्या उसका नाम केन्द्र की सरकार घोषित करेगी?

दूसरा, मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि वह एजेंसी यहाँ के किन लोकल लोगों के साथ जुड़ कर काम कर रही है, क्योंकि यह पूरे देश की कठिनाई का सवाल है। बाहर वाले तो हमारे देश की खराबी करने के काम में जुटे ही हैं, मगर मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि इनको यहाँ के कौन लोग आश्रय दे रहे हैं और किनके साथ उनका जुड़ाव है, उनके नाम की घोषणा की जानी चाहिए? सर, एक बहुत ही दुःख की बात यह है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : ठीक है, सवाल हो गया, यह क्वेश्चन आवर है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाळा : नहीं, सर, मगर इसमें तो ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : अभी आपने जो पूछा है, उसका जवाब तो आने दीजिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाळा : सर, विदेश में ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : एक साथ कितने सवाल पूछेंगे?

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाला : सर, यह बात इसी से जुड़ी हुई है। इंटरनेशनल चर्च की जो गतिविधियाँ रहती हैं, उनके माध्यम से जो रूपया यहाँ आता है, वह हमारे देश के विकास के खिलाफ लगाया जाता है। क्या ऐसी कोई साजिश सही रूप में केन्द्र सरकार के नोटिस में है? मेरा एक प्रश्न और भी है, जिसे मैं बाद में पूछूंगा।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Sir, the Hon. Member has made a point that this is a ploy to destabilise our country. I would like to state that this is not true. The Hon. Prime Minister in his interview to the Science magazine had said, and I quote, "There are NGOs often funded from the United States and Scandinavian countries, which are not fully" - and I would like to underline these words - "appreciative of the development challenges that our country faces", and he had mentioned, for example, what was happening in Kudankulam, in southern India, where a local was leading protests against the commissioning of two 1000 MW nuclear power reactors, that the atomic energy programme had got into difficulties because of this NGO. So, the Hon. Prime Minister had said it very clearly that the NGOs from other countries such as the United States of America and the Scandinavian countries were sending money to various NGOs here and people who are operating as NGOs were involved in protests. Sir, it has not been proved so far whether that money is being used for the protests. Investigation is on in the matter. But the NGOs which are getting money from those countries are actively involved in these protests. That is what the Hon. Prime Minister had said.

Sir, I would like to say that this falls in the domain of the Home Ministry. The permission to receive money from abroad is given by the Home Ministry. We have mentioned in our reply that the accounts of the four NGOs that have received money from abroad were not clear. Therefore, the Hon. Home Minister, in a public statement, had said that accounts of these agencies have been frozen and they have been barred from receiving money from abroad. There are not only these organizations but also several other NGOs - be it from Orissa or from other States. Whenever the Home Ministry finds that the money has not been properly spent, then their operations are stopped by the Ministry of Home Affairs. It is a routine matter. We do not want to take revenge of any kind on anybody. We requested the NGOs which have been operating there to stop their agitation. I am grateful to the Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. They are cooperating with the Central Government in starting the Kudankulam project. The State Government Cabinet decided two days back to support the Central Government on this issue. Now, we are in the process of opening the Kudankulam project. Till the investigations are complete, we cannot say anything about it here.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The second supplementary, please.

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY : Mr. Minister, would you not acknowledge the efforts made by our leader? ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mrs. Stanley, you cannot get up like this(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Also, Sir, we appreciate the support of the former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Shri Karunanidhi, to the project. I was mentioning about the approval of the Cabinet of the State Government. I would like to put on record the support of the entire State of Tamil Nadu. The former chief Minister of Tamil Nadu also supported the project. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रुपाला : सर, माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया कि वह पैसों का जो मामला है, उसमें गृह मंत्रालय की निगरानी में उनकी जाँच होती है, जो विदेश से आया-जाया करते हैं। प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जिन पर्टिकुलर एन.जी.ओज़. की बात की है, क्या उनके बारे में गृह मंत्रालय ने कोई जाँच की है और इनके बारे में क्या कोई प्रगति हुई है, यह हम जानना चाहेंगे? इसके साथ ही जो कम्पनी यह काम कर रही है, वह कम्पनी अमेरिकन नहीं है और इसकी वजह से यह कोई साजिश चल रही है, यदि ऐसी भी कोई बात है, तो माननीय मंत्री जी बताने की कृपा करें।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Sir, I do not see any conspiracy in that. I would like to say that I have only mentioned about the NGOs which are getting money from those countries - the U.S. and the Scandinavian countries. I read the statement given by the Hon. Prime Minister; it is a very carefully worded one. For the information of the Hon. Member, I would also like to mention what the Hon. Home Minister said in public. He said that the four NGOs against whom the MHA had found that they had not kept their accounts properly, the MHA had recommended the CBI inquiry into the affairs of the two NGOs. He also said that the MHA had requested the State Government to conduct inquiry into the other two organizations. That is what the Hon. Home Minister had said. To get further details about those organizations, I would like to say that it is for the Home Ministry to respond.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE : Sir, in the answer, the Minister has stated that apprehensions had been generated among the people about the safety of nuclear power plants following the Fukushima accident in Japan. There were some reports to say that the Government was not considering the reports of several Commission on the safety of the nuclear power plants. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister, through you, Sir, whether the Ministry or the Corporation has conducted any survey or study on the safety of the existing nuclear power plants. If so, I would like to know the status report on the action taken by the Government on the proposals of the Commissions.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Sir, on the Fukushima accident, the Hon. Prime Minister assured on the floor of the House that a Review Committee had been constituted by our Government, that a Task Force had been constituted by the Nuclear Power Corporation of India. Sir, four committees have been constituted for the purpose of going into the safety aspect of the nuclear power plants in the country. They have submitted the reports. Also, Sir, the Atomic Energy Regulatory Authority also has

constituted a committee; it has also gone into the question. It has submitted the report. The reports submitted by these committees have been placed on the websites of the Department of Atomic Energy and the Nuclear Power Corporation of India for the public to see. According to the decision taken by the Hon. Prime Minister, these reports have been placed on the websites. They gave nine recommendations; action in respect of six has been completed. For some small recommendation like keeping the water source, it has been done; keeping the alternative energy source has also been done. Sir, we have upgraded our safety system up to seven layers in all the nuclear power plants. As far as the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant is concerned, I would like to say that Generation-3 Safety System has been adopted in that. Therefore, Sir, the issue of safety of nuclear power plants in India has been amply addressed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The question is not on safety; it is on a different thing.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Yes, Sir; but he has put the question about safety. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास : धन्यवाद, उपसभापति महोदय। माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी के वक्तव्य को गंभीरता से लिया जाना चाहिए। मैं कुछ दिन पहले कन्याकुमारी में था, वहाँ भी मुझे कुछ लोगों से बातचीत करने का मौका मिला। मुझे ध्यान में आ रहा है कि वहाँ आज नहीं, बल्कि 10-20 वर्षों से ऐसे तत्व काम कर रहे हैं, जो भारत के विरोध में हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या ये वही लोग हैं, जिन लोगों ने विवेकानन्द का शिला स्मारक बनने का विरोध कन्याकुमारी में किया था?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Sir, I don't call any of them anti-national. Demonstrations by the people are allowed in our country. In a democracy, we have to respect their views also. Therefore, our Government heard their views. In order to allay the fears of the people living in and around the Kudankulam area, the Hon. Prime Minister constituted a 15-member scientists committee. The Tamil Nadu Government also constituted a four-member committee, which included the agitating groups. They went into it. They held five meetings; then, they submitted a report. In their report, they said that it is very safe; it will withstand even tsunami and earthquake. Apart from that, the safety measures have been complied with ...*(Interruptions)*... One minute, please ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाळा : सर, यह सवाल ही नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह सवाल सेफ्टी का नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री वी. नारायणसामी : मैं उस पर आ रहा हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री अनिल माधव दवे : सर, सवाल कुछ है और मंत्री जी जवाब कुछ और दे रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The simple question is whether some organisations which have protested are involved in it or not.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : I am coming to that. Sir, as far as the NGOs are concerned, in that area, they are spending a lot of money. Therefore, the Home Ministry has been investigating the matter. Unless and until the Home Ministry gives its view, we cannot say anything on that.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA : Sir, the question is very important and relevant at this juncture. The Hon. Prime Minister's interview of 24th February, 2012 appeared in the Science Magazine. The core of that is this. His assessment was, "Over the past few decades, India's relative position in the world of science had been declining, and we have been overtaken by countries like China." He confessed it to this Magazine. Later, he said, "It is not only in our nuclear development programme, but, simultaneously on biotechnology programme also, there are agencies...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : This is his speech to the National Science Academy.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA : This is not only his speech but also his interview to the Science Magazine.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : This was also his inaugural speech to the Science Academy.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA : That is the point. He further said, "The biotechnology, genetic engineering, genetically modified seeds and our nuclear programme are being stopped or hurdled by some NGOs funded by foreign countries." My point is, if the Hon. Prime Minister is aware, why the Home Minister is not aware or why our learned friend, Shri Narayanasamy, is not aware that money is coming. The FCRA is regulated under the Home Ministry. The CBI always keeps a serious scrutiny and monitors the funds coming to India. Our country is so soft that the money is coming from abroad, stopping our project...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : What is your question? Please put your question.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA : What have they done so far, and what are they going to do? Please inform the House as to how you are going to overcome this. ...(*Interruptions*)... Which are the agencies involved in it? Mr. Narayanasamy, it cannot be an individual who is stopping this. There must be some State-sponsored agencies which are working behind it so that India cannot develop. That is the reason.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Sir, the question is about the NGOs. ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, I would like to submit to this House very humbly as far as NGOs are concerned, I made it very clear, Mr. Ahluwalia also asked about it, that the entire information relating to this is available with the Home Ministry. But I am quoting from the Hon. Home Minister's statement made in public. Hon. Home Minister clearly said that they have identified four NGOs who are very active near the Nuclear Power

Plant at Kudankulam. They are getting money from abroad especially from the United States and Scandinavian countries. These NGOs are agitating against this Nuclear Power Plant ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You give notice of a for Half-an-Hour discussion ...*(Interruptions)*... This cannot be allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*... Three supplementaries are over. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Action was taken against, according to the Home Minister, four NGOs and investigation is going on. Therefore, what those NGOs are and what their names are, all this information is to be given by the Home Ministry as we are not the Ministry concerned. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You give Half-an-Hour Notice. ...*(Interruptions)*... I cannot allow ...*(Interruptions)*... Papers to be laid in the next item. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please give a notice. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is a big subject ...*(Interruptions)*... It is a long subject ...*(Interruptions)*... Please have some patience ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not possible ...*(Interruptions)*... I have taken up another subject ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing will go on record.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : *

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notifications of the Ministry of Shipping

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN) : Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of Section 124 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Shipping :-

- (1) G.S.R. 6(E), dated the 26th December, 2011, publishing the Mumbai Port Trust (Leave) Amendment Regulations, 2011.
- (2) G.S.R. 11 (E), dated the 5th January, 2012, publishing the Visakhapatnam Port Employees (Leave) Amendment Regulations, 2012. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6192/15/12]

Notification of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of Section 23 of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Notification No. G.S.R. 896 (E), dated the 23rd December, 2011, publishing the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) (Amendment) Rules, 2011. [Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 6185/15/12]