

Government has taken a decision on this. We have sent a draft to all the States. We are asking for supply of adequate quantity of coal. We are taking up this matter with the Coordination Committee of the Ministers of Coal and Railways.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you do not have to go on explaining everything.

MR. SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, power is the most important infrastructure. My question is on the Common Minimum National Action Plan for producing power. There are two elements on which I would like to put my question. One is whether the Government's Common Plan includes the production of energy by using nuclear technology and non-renewable sources of energy. Even in nuclear technology, are they going to make use of the fast breeder technology and the fusion technology?

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI : Sir, as regards the nuclear technology, it is dealt by my colleague, Shri Alagh. I think Shri Alagh has categorically answered the earlier Question which was addressed to the Prime Minister. We are meeting the requirement through non-conventional energy sources also for which also there is a separate Ministry. Through wind energy we have achieved one-third megawatts of power. This is also included in the Common Minimum Action Plan.

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Sir, the former Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan. Singh, recently stated that due to lack of public investment in the generation of electricity, a gap has been created between demand and supply and this has posed a lot of problems. May I ask the hon. Minister whether the Government is withdrawing from the field of generation of electricity in coming years? It is my simple question.

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI : No. The Government is not withdrawing from the generation of electricity.

#### Disposal of Nuclear Waste

\*166. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any long-term plans for the disposal of nuclear low-level radio-active waste generated in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether arrangements have been made with any foreign country for disposal of nuclear waste; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Processes, technologies and equipment have been indigenously developed for treatment, conditioning, handling, packaging and disposal of low level radioactive wastes generated in India. Plants have been set up and are operated successfully for this purpose as per the guidelines and approvals given by the regulatory authority namely the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the reply given by Hon'ble Minister is correct, I would like to say that on one hand, fish have been wiped out in the sea area adjoining Tarapur power station and Secondly, a large number of people of that area are falling ill. Similarly several complaints have been received in these last few years from Kota, Rajasthan where another nuclear power station is functioning. The Government all this while has maintained such a stern attitude that anyone trying to photograph these places was driven away. I would like to know that when so many arrangements have been made, why are these complaints being received from Tarapur and Kota?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the standards set by Atomic Energy Safety Regulatory Board, the samples of air, water and the effluents are regularly checked in each plant. In addition to this, there is no report of any problem being faced. (Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Such complaints have been made many a times. (Interruptions).

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I have not asked whether he has got any report in this regard or not?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : This matter has been discussed in the House earlier also and I have given clarifications in this regard in the House but still if anyone has got any specific complaints regarding a particular incident. (Interruptions).

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Let us go to Tarapur tomorrow.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : All right Let us go. (Interruptions).

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : You may give a reply in the house after reviewing the situation yourself. (Interruptions).

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : I have been to Tarapur . . . (Interruptions)

12.00 hrs.

I have actually toured Tarapur.

[English]

I have already travelled to Tarapur. That is not the point and this is no way of arguing . . . (Interruptions).

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : How can you say that you have not received any complaints. Lakhs of complaints have been made.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : If one or two complaints have been received, I have given a reply in that regard in the House also. Still if you are insisting that you have got a complaint, you may forward it to me and I'll look into it.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : What do you mean by saying that you'll look into it ? The complaints all already with you. Why are you sitting over the files ?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Shri Jaswant Singh is seated there with you. He has raised all these points in detail in the Committee on Energy. Hon'ble Member may go through that report and if he is not satisfied even after that, he may raise the matter in the House.

[English]

I think, a lot of irresponsible statement are made on nuclear safety . . . (Interruptions).

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I think, the Minister is irresponsible. You are irresponsible. How dare you make such a charge here ? . . . (Interruptions) How dare you make such a charge of irresponsibility ? It is the Executive that is irresponsible and not this House . . . (Interruptions).

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Sir, I am making the statement with a full sense of responsibility. In each nuclear plant there is detailed surveys of all effluents—air, water and so on.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Minister wants to mislead the House. Tarapur falls under my constituency. I would like to tell him that I am ready to take him along to that particular place in Tarapur. I have raised this matter time and again and my question No. 176 pertains to this very subject. If Hon'ble Minister is prepared to visit Tarapur on this Saturday or Sunday, I am ready to go with him to Tarapur.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It is a very good offer.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, safety measures are not being adopted in Tarapur and the same is the case in Kota also.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Question Hour is over.

## WRITTEN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS

### LPG Consumers

\*162. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Indian Oil Corporation has recently set-up emergency service cells in some States to provide safety to its L.P.G. consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether complaints regarding leakages in LPG gas cylinders are attended to promptly;

(d) if so, the maximum time taken in this regard;

(e) if not, the reasons therefore;

(f) whether the Government propose to issue directives to other oil companies also to provide these facilities to its L.P.G. consumers;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the number of consumers likely to be benefited as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :  
(a) and (b) The first emergency service cell to attend to the leakage complaints of LPG customers during Holidays and Sundays and outside the normal working hours of the distributors was commissioned in Delhi by IOC on 22nd July, 1983. As on 1.1.1997 Indian Oil Corporation is operating 419 emergency service cells in different states.

(c) and (d) LPG leakage complaints are attended to promptly by the distributors as well as emergency service cell operator. Normally the complaint is attended within 2 hours of receipt of such complaint.

(e) Does not arise, in view of (c) and (d) above.