

sea and the contiguous zone (Adopted by the U.N. Conference in the Law of the sea on the 29th April, 1958), Convention on the High seas (Adopted by the U.N. Conference on the Law of the sea on the 29th April, 1958), convention on fishing and conservation of the living resources of the High seas (Adopted by the U.N. Conference on the Law of the sea on the 28th April, 1958), Convention on the continental shelf (Adopted by the U.N. Conference on the Law of the sea, on the 29th April, 1958);

(b) whether any or all of the above conventions have been ratified by India;

(c) if so, the dates of ratification; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) India participated in the first U.N. Conference on the Law of the Sea (Geneva, 24 February—28 April 1958) at which the four conventions on the Law of the Sea were drawn up. India also participated in the second conference on the Law of the Sea (Geneva, 16 March—26th April, 1960) at which certain issues left unresolved by the first conference were considered. India has only signed the Final Acts of the two conferences. None of these conventions have so far been signed or acceded to by India.

(b) In view of the answer to question (a) above, this does not arise.

(c) This does not arise.

(d) The question of accession to the Law of the Sea Conventions is under consideration by Government.

Inter-Varsity Centres for Nuclear Research

3346. Shri Ram Harak Yadav: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up two inter-arsity Centres

for nuclear research in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the location of the centres?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) Yes.

(b) It is proposed to set up two Inter-University Centres, one in the southern region and the other in the northern region of the country for nuclear research or advanced research in various scientific disciplines making use of the tools provided by the development of atomic energy. These centres will provide such facilities as a reactor or an accelerator or a sub-critical assembly, etc., which the universities in India cannot afford to provide individually. The Centre in the northern region will cover the universities in the northern and eastern States from Jammu and Kashmir to Assam and Orissa and another centre somewhere in the South for the universities in Andhra, Kerala, Madras and Mysore States. The Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay and the Atomic Energy Establishment, Trombay will meet the needs of the universities in Gujerat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan States. The views of the various universities in the two regions in regard to the location of these centres have been ascertained and a final decision in the matter will be taken shortly.

Passport Racket

3347. Shri R. G. Dubey: Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether a gang which duped Punjab villagers of more than sixty thousand rupees by selling forged passports has been traced by Delhi Police; and

(b) if so, whether any arrests have been made in this connection?