

by the U.S. National Aeronautic and Space Administration of the United States, was now being received in India; and

(c) if so, the names of the Centres in India where such an information is received?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) Yes. It is proposed to set up a receiving unit at the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station to monitor regularly radio signals from the S-66 Ionospheric Beacon Satellite.

(b) and (c). Yes. The Centres receiving such information are the Astrophysical Laboratory, Kodaikanal, the Defence Electronics Research Laboratory, Hyderabad, the Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad and the Radio Propagation Unit of the National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi.

Survey of India's Atomic Projects

486. **Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some British Press Correspondents were recently invited to survey India's Atomic Projects;

(b) whether any Indian Press correspondents had also been invited and if so, when; and

(c) the main purpose of these surveys by the foreign Press Correspondents?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (c). In order to project India's achievements in the peaceful uses of atomic energy before an international public, a party of British Science Correspondents was invited to go round our Atomic Energy Installations and later write about them.

(b) A large number of Indian Correspondents were invited last year on

the occasion of the tenth year of the existence of the Department of Atomic Energy, and full coverage appeared in all important Indian papers.

Electricity from Atomic Energy

487. { **Shri Madhu Limaye:**
Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the three projects for generating electricity from atomic energy which are at present under execution; and

(b) the time by which power generation would commence from these projects?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). The required information is given below:

Tarapur Atomic Power Project

Work on this project is proceeding according to schedule. About 25,000 cubic yards of concrete for the sub-structure and super structure of the reactor and turbine buildings have been laid. Fabrication work on the steel vessels, which will contain the reactor and primary circuit, has also made considerable progress. The manufacturing activity in the vendors' shops on items of equipment, including the pressure vessels and turbine generators, is also proceeding according to schedule.

The contracted date for the full power operation of the Station is October 1968, but there is the possibility of some amount of power being generated several months ahead of this date.

Rajasthan Atomic Power Project

The Station will have two reactor units of 200 MWe each. The work on the first unit was sanctioned in