

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri K. K. Shah): (a) The proposals to set up High Power Transmitters in five border areas have been finalised and in the remaining five cases proposals have been finalised but they are awaiting sanction.

(b) and (c). Equipment has been ordered in all cases with the approval of Finance. Sites have been selected in all the cases excepting one and building construction work is in progress in three cases. Three of these High Power Transmitters are expected to come up during the financial year 1967-68 and the rest are expected to be completed within the next two years.

**Manufacture of Fighter and Helicopter Planes**

2. Dr. Karni Singh: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has been made regarding the indigenous manufacture of fighter and helicopter planes; and

(b) if so, the extent thereof?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The major tasks undertaken by the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. are as follows:—

- (i) Manufacture of the Gnat aircraft under licence;
- (ii) Design, development and manufacture of the Jet Fighter HF-24;
- (iii) Manufacture of the supersonic interceptor MIG-21 including its engine and air-borne electronic equipment;
- (iv) Manufacture under licence of the Alouette helicopter including its engine.

The Gnat is in full production at the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. Further deliveries of the Gnat were made during 1966-67.

The HF-24 Mk. 1 aircraft has been put into production and a number of them were delivered to the Indian Air Force during the year. The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited have also undertaken the development of an improved version of the HF-24 aircraft.

The first phase of assembly of the MIG-21 aircraft has been completed. Further phases of manufacture are in hand.

The erection of the Alouette helicopter from sub-assemblies has commenced at the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. The production of the Alouette helicopter from raw materials is expected to commence during the year 1967-68.

**Notes exchanged between India and China**

3. Shri Yashpal Singh:

Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether any notes have been exchanged with the Government of People's Republic of China after the termination of the last Session of Parliament; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b). Several notes have been exchanged with the Government of the People's Republic of China since the termination of the last session of Parliament. White Paper No. XIII containing notes, memoranda, etc. exchanged with the Chinese Government since February 1966, is being placed before Parliament shortly.

**Atomic Power Station, Tarapore**

4. Shri George Fernandes: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the terms of the contract entered into by the Government of India

with the General Electrical Company and Bechtel India, Limited for construction of the Atomic Power Station in Tarapore in Maharashtra;

(b) the cost of construction as originally estimated and the final estimate; and

(c) how far the devaluation has affected the cost of construction of the Tarapore Atomic Power Project?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): (a) The contract for the construction has been awarded to General Electric Company of USA and International General Electric Company (India), and not to Bechtel India Limited, who are one of the sub-contractors of the main contractor.

The contract is on a 'turn-key' basis, and includes designing the station, procurement of equipment and erection of the station. A fixed payment subject only to adjustments on account of changes in Labour and Materials costs and in certain specified taxes and duties is due to the contractor. The scheduled date for the turn-over of the Station under the contract is 52 months from the effective date of contract, which is June 19, 1964. The contractor has guaranteed the output and efficiency of the station, quality and workmanship and fuel performance.

(b) and (c). Originally the cost of construction was estimated at about Rs. 48.5 crores, excluding the cost of fuel. The latest revised estimate is approximately Rs. 64.5 crores. The increase in cost is due to the steep rise in Customs Duty, which accounts for an increase of Rs. 6.00 crores, and the devaluation of the rupee, which accounts for an increase of Rs. 10.00 crores.

#### **Diplomatic Relations with the German Democratic Republic**

5. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether a final decision has since been taken to establish diplo-

matic relations with the German Democratic Republic; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The policy of the Government of India on the question of the diplomatic recognition of the German Democratic Republic has been stated on more than one occasion in both the Houses of Parliament by the late Prime Minister Nehru and subsequently by other members of the Government of India. There has been no change in this policy.

#### **Broadcast of Election Bulletins**

6. Shri S. Supakar:  
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) how many special bulletins giving the results of the General Elections were broadcast in English and the regional languages of India; and

(b) the time covered by the aforesaid broadcasts?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri K. K. Shah): (a) From February 21 to 25, six special bulletins each in English and Hindi were put out daily from Delhi. The duration of some of the existing bulletins was also increased. A total of 68 new bulletins in Hindi and 12 in other languages were broadcast from the Regional Stations daily during the period when results were announced. There were minor local variations.

(b) The special bulletins from Delhi in English totalled 70 minutes of broadcast time daily, while those in Hindi totalled 65 minutes. The duration of existing bulletins in English and Hindi was increased by 20 minutes each daily. All English bulletins were relayed by all the Regional Stations. Hindi bulletins were relayed by the Hindi stations. The special bulletins put out by the Regional Stations totalled 560 minutes of broadcast time. In addition, the broadcast