

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

time of existing bulletins was increased by 120 minutes.

#### Treaty on Nuclear Non-proliferation

8. **Shri Nath Pai:**  
**Shri Bairaaj Madhok:**  
**Shri Ram Kishan:**  
**Shri D. C. Sharma:**  
**Shri Bibbuti Misra:**  
**Shri K. N. Tiwary:**  
**Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the negotiations on reaching an agreement on a treaty on nuclear non-proliferation;

(b) the attitude of the principal nuclear powers; and

(c) the role Indian Delegation played in these negotiations?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) The last session of the General Assembly passed a resolution calling upon the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee in Geneva to give high priority to the question of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in accordance with the mandate outlined in the General Assembly resolution 2026(XX). That Committee reconvened in Geneva on the 21st February, 1967, and its session is in progress.

(b) The differences between the points of view of the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R., who have been having private negotiations, on several aspects of non-proliferation are reported to have become narrower. It is understood that they have reached agreement on some articles of a treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and that these articles impose various disabilities on the non-nuclear powers without any balancing obligations on the part of the nuclear powers.

(c) The Indian delegation to the 21st session of the General Assembly of the United Nations fully participated in the discussions on this subject.

Its main role was to state consistently and firmly that any treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons should be balanced and non-discriminatory and be a step towards general and complete disarmament.

#### Theft of Tyres and Tubes from Palam Air-port

9. **Shri Hukam Chand Kachhavalaya:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 739 on the 7th November, 1966 and state:

(a) whether the investigation into the theft of tubes and tyres at Palam airport has since been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, how long it will take to complete the investigation?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). The investigations are still in progress.

(c) It is not yet possible to give a definite period during which the investigation will be completed, but every effort will be made to complete it as soon as possible.

#### Accident on Mahabaleshwar Road

10 **Shri Hukam Chand Kachhavalaya:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 740 on the 7th November, 1966 and state:

(a) whether the report of the Military Court of Inquiry into the accident on Mahabaleshwar Road has since been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the further time likely to be taken in the matter?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main findings of the Court are that (i) the accident was not due to any mechanical defect in the vehicle, (ii) the exact cause of the accident is difficult to determine but the possibilities are, faulty judgement