

Forest Policy. The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 requires prior approval of the Central Government for the diversion of any forest land to non-forest purposes.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). All relevant aspects will be taken into account while revising the policy.

[*English*]

Statue of "Surya Dev"

1227. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during British days the original stone Statue of "Surya Dev" of Konark temple Orissa was taken away from India and now kept in British Museum;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to bring back the statue for the glory of Indian culture; and

(c) steps proposed to be taken by Government to maintain the Konark temple and save it from erosion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) According to researches it has not been established that the surya Dev image in the British Museum is from Konark Temple.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Structural, chemical, conservation and horticultural operations are in progress in the Sun Temple at Konark. In addition, it is proposed to bring 11.4 hectares of archaeological land under casuarina and cashewnut plantation to serve as wind breakers and prevent erosion of the surface of the temple by salt laden winds.

[*Translation*]

Fuel for Tarapur Atomic Power Plant

1228. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any alternative arrangement of fuel for Tarapur Atomic Power Plant has been made;

(b) whether any agreement concluded with the United States of America in regard to its operation has been completely repealed;

(c) if not, the points which are yet to be settled; and

(d) whether Government propose to move the international court for settlement of these issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) to (c). Pursuant to the Agreement concluded between India and France in November 1982, France, in lieu of the U.S.A., is supplying enriched uranium for the Tarapur Atomic Power Station, within the framework of the 1963 Cooperation Agreement.

(d) No, Sir.

Utilisation of solar energy

1229. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of the progress made in regard to utilisation of solar energy in the country;

(b) whether Central Government propose to set-up a solar energy board with a view to encourage the utilisation of solar energy;

(c) if so, the composition of the Board and whether the Board will set-up its offices at State-level also; and