

Radioactivity in the Sands of Kerala Coast

469 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there any reduction in the Radioactivity levels in the sands of Kerala coast;

(b) whether any plant other than Rare Earths is causing the Radio activity in the region; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) Yes Sir. In some, large scale surface mining of beach minerals and subsequent refilling with Monazite-free tailings have resulted in substantial reduction in the radioactivity levels.

(b) and (c) Neither Rare Earths Plants in Beach Sand Areas nor any other plants there are causing radioactivity in the region.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance for Construction of Houses in Gujarat

470. SHRI N.J. RATHVA Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses built for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes under the Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) during the current year in Gujarat;

(b) the financial assistance provided by the Government for construction of houses particularly in the tribal and rural areas of the State; and

(c) whether the construction work of these

units is being done by the beneficiaries themselves or through contractors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Under IAY, 2144 houses have been built for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes during the year 1993-94 (upto June, 1993).

(b) An amount of Rs. 142.96 lakhs has been spent till June, 1993, against an allocation of Rs. 855 lakh for 1993-94 (tentative).

(c) The IAY Manual clearly lays down that the construction of houses under IAY has to be done by the beneficiary who is the ultimate occupier of the house and no contractor is allowed for the construction of these houses

Projects Undertaken Abroad by P.S.U.s.

471. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: (FEROZEPUR) Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether information has since been collected regarding Unstarred Question No. 5196 answered on April 7, 1993 about the Projects undertaken by Public Sector Undertakings in Foreign Countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) Information is still being collected from all the 246 Central Public Sector Undertakings and will be laid on the Table of the House on receipt.