

(c) As a general policy, Central Government lands leased out for purposes of Salt manufacture, are not permitted to be used for any purpose not connected with Salt production.

Wife-Burning Tragedies

93. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any increase in the number of wife burning tragedies during the previous Government's regime;

(b) if so, the number of such cases, State-wise and year-wise particularly in the capital; and

(c) whether any observations have also been made by the Supreme Court in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and on receipt of the same a statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

Launching of Next Sputnik and Foreign Assistance for making the same

94. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether we are sending a Sputnik into Space in the nearest future; and

(b) whether we are taking any assistance from foreign countries in making the Sputnik and sending it into the sky?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and (b). An experimental geo-synchronous communications satellite [Ariane Passenger Payload Experiment (APPLE)]

being built by the Indian Space Research Organisation is scheduled for launch in the nearest future from Kourou in French Guinea. The satellite will be launched by the third developmental flight of the Ariane Launch Vehicle provided by the European Space Agency.

Reorganisation of Department of Science and Technology

95. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are re-organising the Department of Science and Technology; and

(b) if so, on what lines?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and (b). The Government has only recently assumed office and has not yet decided on the details of the reorganisation. However it is clear that the Department of Science and Technology has to be strengthened if it is to play a useful role in the development of the country.

Setting up of Atomic Energy Plant in Andhra Pradesh

96. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) The number of Atomic Energy Plants working in the country;

(b) The number of them under construction; and

(c) Whether there is any proposal with Government to instal an atomic energy plant in Andhra Pradesh?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and (b). At present Tarapur Atomic Power Station in Maharashtra and the first Unit of Rajasthan Atomic Power Station in Rajasthan are in operation.