

regard the period for which the offenders could be detained before filing of charge-sheet;

(b) if so, the States which provide detention for more than 60 days;

(c) the number of offenders and the period for which they are detained in each of the States under President's Rule beyond the prescribed period; and

(d) how many of such offenders are in jails for not being able to obtain bails?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH):

(a) and (b). Section 167 of the Code of Criminal Procedure 1973 as amended by the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1978 (45 of 1978) empowers the Magistrate to authorise detention of an accused person, pending investigation, for an aggregate period of 90 days in cases where the investigation relates to offences punishable with death, imprisonment for life or imprisonment for not less than ten years and 60 days where the investigation relates to any other offence. Section 167 of the Code of Criminal Procedure 1973 originally provided a limit of 60 days in respect of all offences. After the expiry of 90/60 days, the person detained has to be released on bail if he is prepared to and does furnish bail.

After the enactment of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1978, no approval has been accorded by the Central Government to any State to make a local amendment in respect of the provisions pertaining to the period of detention contained in Section 167 Cr. P.C.

(c) and (d). The State Governments have been requested to furnish the required information.

Setting up of Atomic Power Station in Saurashtra Region of Gujarat

189. SHRI MAGAN BHAI BAROT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is demand for power generation from Atomic Energy by installing Atomic Power Station in Saurashtra region of Gujarat State;

(b) whether in view of shortage of coal and non-availability of Hydro-plant, Government are considering to grant the setting up of an Atomic Power Station in the said region; and

(c) whether Government consider to use Lignite in Kutch to generate power, if so, how?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The question of setting up of a second atomic power plant in the Western Electricity Region, of which Gujarat is a part, is under consideration of the Government.

(c) Government is considering the proposal of the Gujarat Electricity Board to instal a Lignite based Thermal Power Station in Kutch during the Five Year Plan period (1978—83).

Robberies in Northern States and Delhi

190. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of murders, dacoities and robberies committed during the last six months in Delhi and neighbouring States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that after thumping majority of the Congress-I in the recent Lok Sabha elections the cases of murder, dacoity and robbery have increased in the Northern States of the country; and