

Scheme to Utilise Wastland for Energy Sources

2482. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Planning Commission has approved the Scheme submitted by the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources to utilise wasteland for energy sources;

(b) if so, the details of financial allocation made for that scheme; and

(c) when the above scheme is expected to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) to (c). The Plan proposals of DNES contain a component for energy plantations on wasteland. However, the Seventh Plan allocations for the DNES have not yet been finalised. For demonstration projects of energy plantations, an allocation of Rs. 2 crores has been made in the Annual Plan Budget of DNES for 1985-85. Energy Plantations will be taken up within the available funds during the current year.

USA Activities in Indian Ocean

2483. SHRI C.P. THAKUR :
SHRI BRAJA MOHAN
MOHANTY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether with the installation of powerful transmitters in Lanka by U.S.A., the U.S.A. has increased its activity in Indian Ocean; and

(b) the steps India is going to undertake against this sophisticated systems which will keep an eye on our all defence preparedness ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :

(a) According to information available

the powerful transmitters proposed to be installed in Sri Lanka are part of the short wave relay station of the Voice of America.

(b) Government are keeping a careful watch on all developments in the area that may have a bearing on India's security environment.

"Pollution due to Cement Industry in Chittorgarh; Rajasthan"

2484. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the cement industry is the second biggest cause responsible for pollution in the country;

(b) the area of land in hectares damaged in Chittorgarh district of Rajasthan due to pollution by cement industry; and

(c) the steps being taken by cement industry to check pollution and the other steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Land Use Study made around Birla Cement Works, Chittorgarh indicates that there has been no damage to the agricultural land.

(c) According to the Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board, the Birla & J.K. Cement Works have already installed pollution control equipment and have also appointed consultants to achieve the prescribed standards for emission.

[Translation]

Danger due to Military Bases in Indian Ocean

2485. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a grave danger has been