

posed from the gulf countries on account of the setting up of military bases in Indian Ocean and the opening of electronic spying centre in Pakistan;

(b) the steps being taken by India to safeguard against these dangers; and

(c) whether any agreement has been reached with the Soviet Union to face these dangers jointly ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) Government have repeatedly made known their view that great power military presence in the Indian Ocean threatens the security of the littoral states. Provision of any military facilities to the great powers in the Indian Ocean, including the Gulf, would therefore be a matter of concern to the Government.

Government have, on several occasions, also made known their concern regarding induction of sophisticated weaponry into Pakistan including the so-called 'Hawkeye' Early Warning Airborne defence system.

(b) Government are monitoring with utmost vigil all development having a bearing on the country's security.

(c) No, Sir.

[English]

Setting up of Atomic Energy Regulation Authority

2486. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Atomic Energy Regulation Authority has been set up to regulate the safeguard aspects of atomic energy activities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Atomic Energy Regulatory Board has been established in 1983 to carry out regulatory and safety functions envisaged under the Atomic Energy Act 1962 lay down safety standards and frame rules and regulations and to ensure compliance with safety codes and standards during the design construction and operation of nuclear facilities. The Board is Chaired Dr. A.K. De.

[Translation]

Tamil Speaking Refugees from Sri Lanka

2487. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) the number of Tamil speaking refugees who came to India from Sri Lanka during the last one year;

(b) whether they have come to India with proper Visas and whether they have not gone back even after the expiry of their visas; and

(c) if so, the action being taken by Government to ensure their repatriation to Sri Lanka ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) The number of Tamil speaking refugees who came to India from July, 1983 till end of March, 1985 is over 85,000.

(b) A large number of the refugees have come to India without visas. Visas of those who came with travel documents have, on expiry, been extended for a short term.

(c) The Government have repeatedly impressed upon the Sri Lankan authorities the necessity of creating conditions which would enable the refugees to return to their homes in safety and dignity.

[English]

"Protocol on Environment With France"

2488. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has a protocol on Environment with France;

(b) whether the French system of setting up and running River Basin Authorities is being studied for implementation in India; and

(c) how does the French method vary from the Ganga Valley Board ?

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

(b) Although the French Government have offered to share their experience, the concept of French River Basin Authorities, does not appear to be appropriate to Indian conditions in the present context.

(b) The Central Ganga Authority has been set up with the specific task of overseeing the implementation of an Action Plan to prevent pollution of the Ganga, while the river basin authorities in France have a larger mandate of overseeing different aspects of river basin management.

Issue of Instructions Regarding Rotation of Assistants/Desk Officers/under Secretaries

2489. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the wake of the PM's drive or ensure a clean administration and prompt disposal of papers, his Ministry has issued any departmental instructions to the various Ministries and Departments dealing with the public viz., the Ministries of Commerce, Industry, Finance, Petroleum & Chemical and Fertilizers etc. for rotation of Assistants/Desk Officers/Under Secretaries and above who had been working on vulnerable seats for the last more than 3 years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) :

(a) Yes, Sir. The instructions are applicable to all the categories of Government servants.

(b) It will not be in the public interest to disclose the details.

[Translation]

Amount Spent on the Construction of Simla Airport

2490. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) The amount spent by Government on the construction of Simla Airport during the last three years; and

(b) the details of the amount Government propose to spend on the entire scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) The Union Government has not incurred any expenditure on the construction of Simla airport during the last three years.

(b) It is estimated that expenditure of Rs. 4.72 crores on the balance of earth work and construction of runway and associated pavements, terminal building etc. will be required to be incurred to make the proposed aerodrome fit for operations. Subject to the project being sanctioned by the competent authority, this expenditure is proposed to be met by the Central Government.

[English]

Killing of Protestors in South Africa

2491. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently there has been killing of peaceful protestors on very mass scale in South Africa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any efforts are being made by Government to take up the matter in UNO against such killings in South Africa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(a) and (b). According to reports, on 21st