

(b) whether there have been disturbing reports on food pollution from radioactivity in foods after Chernobyl, and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether standards laid down under (a) above have been observed by the BARC;

(d) how many food samples were tested for Cs 137 and Sr 90 after April, 1986 and the results obtained on each of them; and

(e) whether any lots were found to be

higher than permissible levels and if so, how these were disposed off ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board on 27th August 1987 formally prescribed the permissible levels for Caesium-137 and Strontium-90 in food products. The levels prescribed by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board are as follows ;

Food Items	Permissible levels fixed by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board	
	Caesium-137	Strontium-90
1. Milk (BQ/L)	30	10
2. Milk Powder (BQ/KG)	330	110
3. Butter and Butter Oil (BQ/KG)	40	15
4. All other food items (BQ/KG) (Meat, Cereals and Vegetables)	40*	15

\*as against 600 BQ/KG fixed in the FEC Countries)

(b) Reports have appeared in the Press regarding radioactivity in food items after Chernobyl accident, from European countries and about imported dairy products in Bangladesh, Nepal and Philippines. In India, some reports have appeared expressing concern about Irish butter imported by the Indian Dairy Corporation (now NDDB).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). As on February 12, 1988, 2450 samples were tested. All the samples except one imported meat sample were within the prescribed limits. In the meat sample the activity was 106 BQ/KG as against the prescribed limit of 40 BQ/KG. The Port Health Officer was advised not to release the consignment for consumption.

#### India's achievement about Ocean Development

285. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details about the ocean development work done by India so far with the achievement made;

(b) whether India is seeking the co-operation of other countries in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) The thrust areas in the field of Ocean Development have been framing of policies for ocean development; promotion and coordination of research and development of marine sciences in different laboratories, research institutions, institutes of technology; surveys of the economic zone—its mapping and delineation; identification and assessment of fishery resources; Antarc-

tic research; survey and exploration of deep seabed for polymetallic nodules; harnessing of renewable sources of energy; acquisition of oceanographic research vessels; and the development of requisite manpower. Considerable progress has been made in all the programmes.

As a result of extensive survey and exploration of polymetallic nodules carried out, India became the first country in the world to be allotted a mine site in the Central Indian Ocean covering an area of 150,000 square kilometres.

So far seven expeditions have been sent to Antarctica successfully. Because of the scientific work done during these expeditions, India attained the status of a Consultative Party in the Antarctic Treaty system, has been admitted to the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) and to the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Escape of terrorists from custody

286. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of terrorists escaped from police custody in Punjab during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to check recurrence of such incidents ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### New self-employment scheme for Ex-servicemen

287. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new self-employment scheme for ex-servicemen has been introduced; and

(b) if so, details thereof and the improvements made thereunder ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government has introduced two Self Employment Schemes for Ex-servicemen, i.e. SEMFEX-I w.e.f. 1-4-1987 and SEMFEX-II w.e.f. 15-1-1988. The details of SEMFEX-I and SEMFEX-II schemes with the improvements made thereunder are given below in statement I and statement II respectively.

#### Statement I

##### Self-employment Scheme for Ex-servicemen (SEMFEX-I)

SEMFEX-I : (Self-employment for Ex-servicemen). Scheme formulated by the Centre with the assistance of Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) was launched on 1-4-1987 to encourage and assist ex-servicemen, disabled service personnel and widows of ex-servicemen to take to self-employment ventures. The details and special features of SEMFEX-I Scheme are given in the succeeding paragraphs.

##### Special Features

(a) Selection, training, consultancy service, writing of project report, and sanction of loans will form one complete package;

(b) From the Central Welfare Funds, the Directorate General Resettlement will invest Rs. one crore annually with IDBI and create a revolving fund for Seed capital