

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to a report published in Hong Kong Military Journal "Commilli" stating that China is building up fairly large nuclear arsenal and already possesses nuclear artillery and mines keeping in view that China has refused to sign either the Nuclear Non-Proleferation Treaty or the Partial Test Ban Treaty;

(b) if so, the steps Government are taking so that India is not taken unaware as in 1962 Chinese attack;

(c) whether Government are aware that China has nuclear powered submarines equipped with a two stage solid fuel system and tactical nuclear war-heads in two to 20 kictan range and T-5 short range ballistic missiles (SRBM) at about 100 km. range;

(d) whether Government propose to equip our Armed Forces with nuclear war-heads and submarines, keeping in view military preparation of China and Pakistan; and

(e) if not, the steps being taken to defend our country ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) :
(a) and (b). Government keep a constant watch on all developments impinging on our security.

Reports published in Hongkong Military Journal stating about China's increasing nuclear capabilities have been noted by Government and appropriate measures, consistent with our policy, taken to ensure defence preparedness.

(c) : Government have seen some reports in this regard.

(d) and (e). India remains committed to the policy of peaceful uses of atomic-energy. However, our defence plans are

suitably updated to meet all emerging situations.

[Translation]

Manufacture of Atom Bomb by Pakistan

362. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Pakistan is engaged in manufacturing an atomic bomb; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government for the security of the country against the danger of the atom bomb ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) :

(a) Available information suggests that Pakistan is continuing her efforts to develop Uranium enrichment and nuclear fuel reprocessing capability which enable her to detonate a nuclear device.

(b) Government keep all such developments which have a bearing on our security under constant watch with a view to taking appropriate measures to ensure the security of the country.

[English]

Minerals in Manipur

363. SHRI MEIJNLUNG KAMSON : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to State :

(a) whether any concrete steps have been taken up for tapping mineral resources in Manipur;

(b) if so, the progress made so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT TATHE) :
(a) to (c). So far about 8 million tonnes