

**Setting up of Atomic Energy Project  
in Madhya Pradesh**

4274. SHRI M. L. JHIKRAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a survey has been carried out in Chutka Patha village near Bargidam in Madhya Pradesh for setting up an Atomic Energy project there;

(b) whether Chutka Patha has been found to be the most suitable place for setting up this project;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the time by which work on this project is likely to start ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) to (d). Among other sites in the western electricity region, some sites in Madhya Pradesh including the site near Bargi Dam has been surveyed by the Site Selection Committee constituted by the Department of Atomic Energy. A final decision with regard to various sites for location of future atomic power plants in the western electricity region is yet to be taken.

**Separate Ministry for Welfare of SCs/STs**

4275. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there will be a separate Ministry for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI-MATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (c). It has not been considered necessary to have a separate Ministry for the welfare of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes but the existing arrangements in the Ministry of Home Affairs are sought to be made more effective.

**Painted Grey Ware**

4276. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH : Will

the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the sites were painted grey ware have been found;

(b) what other artefacts have been discovered at these sites;

(c) whether these sites have any relation with the Mahabharat epoch;

(d) if so, whether Archaeological Survey of India has made a special study to establish the validity of the Mahabharat legend; and

(e) if not, the reasons for disclaiming the historical occurrence of such an episode ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) A number of sites in Northern India like Rugar, Sunet, Mathura, Hastinapur, Bhagwanpura, Atranjikhara, Jakhera, Sonkh, Noh. Ahichchakra, etc. have yielded painted grey ware.

(b) This type of pottery is associated with copper and iron objects, glass, beads, terracotta figurines, etc.

(c) Some scholars have tried to associate this pottery with Mahabharata while a few have refuted it for lack of sufficient material evidence.

(d) and (e). Some scholars associated with the Archaeological Survey of India who have studied the question are not unanimous on this point. Since the date of Mahabharata as recorded on the Puranic or astronomical traditions known in India, and views of the modern Sanskrit scholars and historians are not in agreement, it may not be possible to associate any archaeological culture with the Mahabharata.

**Methods to Disperse Demonstrators**

4277. SHRI D. B. PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a general practice all over the country to resort to firing to disperse demonstrators or mob when they become unruly even though such severe action was not warranted in every case; and