

(c) what progress has been attained to produce indigenous nuclear fuel to be self-sufficient in the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) The balance of 39.6 tonnes represents the requirement of fuel for the Tarapur Station for the years 1980 and 1981 in accordance with the agreed schedule of deliveries.

(b) No Sir. India cannot obtain the enriched uranium requirements for the Tarapur Station from any other source except the United States, as long as the Cooperation Agreement of 1963 remains valid.

(c) Except for the Tarapur Station, none of the atomic power stations require enriched uranium, and indigenous sources of uranium are adequate for the power reactor programme currently envisaged. Production of low enriched uranium for use as fuel will not be viable for meeting the requirement of only the Tarapur Station.

Instances of 'Sati' by Women

3340. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT:

SHRI JAGPAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that instances of 'Sati' offences committed by women are again increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the figures of committed or attempted 'Sati' instances in the country during each of the last three years;

(c) whether cases have been lodged against the offenders as well as the villages who have abetted in committing the crime, if so, the results thereof; and

(d) whether Government are considering to amend the Sati Act to bring

stricter adherence and tighten police machinery to prevent such occurrences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and on receipt a statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) This will arise only after information received is analysed and conclusions drawn.

Industrial Disputes in M. P.

3341. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of industrial disputes are increasing in Madhya Pradesh during recent years;

(b) if so, the number of industrial disputes in Madhya Pradesh during January to September, 1980; and

(c) what steps Government of Madhya Pradesh have taken on the communication sent by Central Government to activate the Industrial Relations Machinery in the State?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. VENKATA REDDY): (a) and (b). The number of industrial disputes (Strikes and lock-outs) was 61 in the year 1976, 168 in 1977, 199 in 1978 and 252 in 1979. The number of such disputes reported during the period January to September 1980 was 105. The figures for 1979 and 1980 are provisional.

(c) In response to the letter of the Minister of Labour, it has been stated by the Government of Madhya Pradesh that conciliation is compulsory under the Madhya Pradesh Industrial Relations Act, if the conciliation officer fails to effect a settlement he tries to persuade the parties to submit to voluntary arbitration and if that fails the case is referred for adjudication