

**TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH):** (a) to (c). There is no specific proposal for setting up science centres in the backward areas of the country. However, the report submitted to the Planning Commission by the Working Group on Science & Technology for the 6th Plan 1980—85 has identified the role science and technology can play in regional and rural development and for the development of weaker sections. As a result, specific plan schemes in the science and technology area have been proposed for development of Scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, landless labourers and weaker sections. Under this scheme specific projects and programmes would be encouraged where development of technology appropriate for the benefit of these communities would be supported and they would be encouraged to participate in science based activities. A separate scheme also involves the establishment of State Councils for Science and Technology which are also expected to pay attention to the needs of the backward areas.

#### Suicide Cases

316. **PROF. RUPCHAND PAL:**

**SHRI JITENDRA PRASAD:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to lay statement showing the total number of suicide cases because of dowry, reported in the country during the last one year, month-wise (State-wise and Union Territory-wise)?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):** Information is being collected and on receipt of the same a statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Nuclear fuel

317. **SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:** Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country will remain dependent on other countries for the basic fuel needed for our atomic plants; and

(b) if not, what measures Govt. are taking to become self-sufficient in nuclear fuel?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Atomic Power Stations being set up in the country would use natural uranium as fuel. The proven reserves of natural uranium in the country would be adequate for this purpose. Indigenous fuel fabrication facilities are also being suitably augmented.

#### Growth rates in electronics industries

318. **SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:** Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the growth rate of various sectors of electronics industry is not picking up;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government are taking to increase the quantity and quality of (i) consumer, (ii) communication, (iii) computer, and (iv) Aerospace-defence electronics?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH):** (a) The growth rate in most sectors of the electronics industry is satisfactory.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The quantitative growth rates of different sectors of the electronics industry envisaged during the Sixth Plan 1980—85 are:

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|--|----------------|
| (i) Consumer Electronics               | 22.0 per cent  |
| (ii) Communication equipment           | 22.0 per cent  |
| (iii) Computers                        | 40.4 per cent. |
| (iv) Aerospace and Defence Electronics | 15.0 per cent. |

These growth rates will be achieved partly through better utilization of