

on the occasion of a meeting of Dalit Writers and Journalists at Solapur on 11 February, 1983 (Hindi Blitz, dated 26 March, 1983) ;

(b) whether Government are aware that this has caused serious resentment amongst the Dalits in particular and right thinking people in general all over the country and ;

(c) whether Government propose to enact some stringent law to curb effectively such disgraceful occurrences ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have been reports of protests over the incident by some sections of people in Maharashtra.

(c) A proposal for making provision in I.P.C. for punishing persons who damage, destroy or deface any monument, statue, etc. is under consideration.

Theft in Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Bombay

8970. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM :
KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI
SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a radio active capsule, two radio active pencils and a collimator have been recovered from two registered contractors of BARC, which were removed from the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Bombay, unauthorisedly ;

(b) if so, whether the accused have confessed to the theft ; and

(c) if so, steps contemplated by Government against the culprits ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) Only one radioactive capsule in a stainless steel pencil was unauthorisedly removed from BARC, Bombay. This has since been recovered. Police have also recovered from the accused

two stainless steel pencils without any radioactive source in them.

(b) Yes, Sir. The accused has confessed to the theft of the radioactive capsule.

(c) A complaint has been lodged with the police. The accused has been arrested and stolen property has been recovered.

Corruption Charges against President, Indian Hockey Federation

8971. SHRI VISHVANATH SHARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry had referred the allegations of corruption and embezzlement against the President of Indian Hockey Federation to Sports Ministry ;

(b) if so, whether Sports Ministry had given clearance to the Ministry of Home Affairs for referring the matter to the C.B.I. for investigation ; and

(c) if so, the progress of the case and action proposed to be taken in the matter by his Ministry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The matter is under investigation.

Tenders for import of coking coal by SAIL

8972. SHRI MANI RAM BAGRI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether to keep up the production in the steel mills, SAIL had invited global tenders for the import of coking coal ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that tenders have already been awarded to some foreign parties to start immediate supply ;

(c) whether SAIL observed the prescribed