

production of rare earths and minerals such as ilmenite, monazite, rutile etc. from the beach sands. In addition, the Indian Rare Earths manages the Thorium Plant at Trombay on behalf of the Department of Atomic Energy.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Uranium Corporation of India

7615. SHRI VARKEY GEORGE : Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) when the Uranium Corporation of India was formed ;

(b) whether any option was given to the employees of the constituent units of the Corporation to remain with their parent units and, if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the action taken on the complaints of the employees, who have lost the benefits of their service in other units and gratuity, to redress their grievances ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) The Uranium Corporation of India Ltd., was incorporated on the 4th of October, 1967.

(b) The Uranium Corporation of India Ltd., was formed by converting the Jaduguda Mines and Uranium Mill Projects into a public Sector Undertaking of the Department of Atomic Energy. The employees originally appointed for the two Projects were offered employment in the Corporation on the terms and conditions mutually settled between the Management and the Jaduguda Labour Union. The employees who were seconded to the Jaduguda Mines and Uranium Mill Projects from the constituent units of the Department of Atomic Energy were given the option either to revert to their parent units or accept employment under the Corporation.

(c) The benefits in totality to the employees offered by the Corporation are generally on a more liberal scale than those prior to their appointment in the Corporation. However, there is a dispute between the Corporation and its workmen over the question of gratuity which is presently under consideration.

Posting of Industrial Security Force in premises of Uranium Corporation of India at Jadugoda (Bihar)

7616. SHRI VARKEY GEORGE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have considered the posting of the personnel of the Industrial Security Force in the Uranium Corporation of India premises at Jadugoda in view of the law and order situation in Bihar and of the way laying of explosives meant for the Jadugoda Mines ; and

(b) if so, the decision arrived at and, if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). The requisition for the induction of the Central Industrial Security Force, as required under section 14 (1) of the Central Industrial Security Force Act, 1968, has not been received from the Management of the Uranium Corporation of India. The question of inducting the Force is under consideration of the Department of Atomic Energy.

Kidnapping of Indias Farmers by Pakistani Troops

7617. SHRI BOKSI NAYAK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether several Indian farmers were kidnapped by the Pakistani troops near Karimganj from India's border ; and

(b) if so, what action, if any, has been taken by Government to ensure early return of the farmers concerned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) According to the information furnished by the Border Security Force, no Indian farmers have been kidnapped by Pakistan troops from near Karimganj in Assam

(b) Does not arise.

Production of Rayon

7618. SHRI C. CHITTIBABU : SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN :