

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The question is being examined in all its implications.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Energy Produced in Tarapore Reactor

541. SHRI BASWANT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) how many Megawatts of energy is being produced in Tarapore Reactor ; and

(b) the reasons for the stoppage of Tarapore Atomic Plant during some time past ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF FINANCE, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) During October 1969, 128 million units of electricity were produced.

(b) The supply during the pre-commissioning period had necessarily to be intermittent as the reactors had to be shut off on different occasions for intensive checking. Some interruption of power supply occurred in August 1969 due to breakdown in the Switchyard operated and maintained by the Maharashtra State Electricity Board. This breakdown was primarily due to saline pollution and humid atmosphere.

#### India's Imports

542. SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision for allowing an increase in imports ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the criteria for selecting the parties and industrial concerns which will be allowed such increased imports and the details about the items to be imported according to this decision ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) to (c). In formulating the import policy, item-

wise scrutiny is undertaken, in consultation with the technical authorities concerned, to ensure that import is allowed only in respect of those items which are not manufactured in the country and are essentially required. Representations for the grant of licences for higher values or for a change in the item-wise import policy are considered by the Committee set up by the Government which include technical advisers. These Committee examine each case on its merits with a view to allow essential import for maximising production.

#### Direct contact by the Indian External Affairs Minister with Heads of Foreign States

543. SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain Members of Parliament have protested to the Prime Minister against the Foreign Minister's establishing direct contacts with Heads of States and thereby alienating the sympathy which his counter-parts would have in those countries ; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. Only one Member of Parliament has written to the Prime Minister on this subject.

(b) Ministers, while visiting foreign countries at the invitation of their Governments, very often call on the Heads of Government/State as a matter of courtesy which is a well recognised diplomatic practice. It is all the more so in the case of the Foreign Minister who may have to discuss matters of bilateral and international importance.

#### Pak. Readiness for Talks with India

544. SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL :  
SHRI R. BARUA :  
SHRI N. K. SOMANI :  
SHRI HUKAM CHAND  
KACHWAI :  
SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH ;  
SHRIMATI SUSHILA  
ROHATGI :

SHRI PREM CHAND VERMA :  
SHRI PRAKASH VIR  
SHASTRI :  
SHRI HIMATSINGKA :  
SHRI N. R. LASKAR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan is now prepared for bilateral talks India : and

(b) if so, the concrete steps which have been taken both by India and Pakistan in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Although some statements have been made by the Pakistani Minister of Information in the U.N. General Assembly Pakistan does not appear prepared for bilateral talks without any conditions.

(b) India has proposed several times to hold unconditional talks with Pakistan on all Indo-Pak problems. Prime Minister also wrote to President Yahya Khan suggesting the setting up of a bilateral body at which all Indo-Pak questions could be discussed. There has been no satisfactory response from Pakistan.

### मन्त्रिमंडल सचिवालय में बलकों की पदोन्नति परीक्षा

545. श्री डा० ना० तिवारी : क्या प्रधान मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मन्त्रिमंडल सचिवालय में बलकों की पदोन्नति के लिए संघ लोक सेवा आयोग द्वारा किसी परीक्षा का आयोजन किया जाता है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो गत तीन वर्षों में कितने बलकों ने परीक्षा दी तथा कितने उत्तीर्ण हुए और कितने बलकों की पदोन्नति की गई ;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि अनुत्तीर्ण परीक्षार्थियों को उत्तीर्ण परीक्षार्थियों की तुलना में प्राथमिकता देकर वरिष्ठता के आधार पर पदोन्नति दी गई है अथवा दी जाती है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

प्रधान मन्त्री, वित्त मन्त्री, अणु शक्ति मन्त्री तथा योजना मन्त्री (श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) से (घ). प्रश्न ही नहीं उठते ।

### Manali-Leh Road

547. SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Manali-Leh road has been completed ;

(b) if so, whether it has been opened for traffic ; and

(c) the total cost thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) A fair whether 3 ton road has been established from Manali to Leh. However, construction and completion of a number of protective works and temporary bridges is in progress.

(b) The road is open to limited traffic.

(c) As some works are still in progress, it is not feasible to give the total cost of construction of the road. Upto the end of July 69, an expenditure of Rs. 971.76 lakhs has been incurred on the construction of this road.

### Arms and Ammunition received by Pakistan from other Countries

548. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of foreign arms and ammunition received by Pakistan from foreign countries uptill now ; and

(b) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) The quantum of arms and ammunition received by Pakistan from various countries has been brought to the notice of the House, from time to time. Information regarding supplies by U.S.A. and China was given on 13th November, 1969, in reply to Unstarred Question No. 431. Certain additional information relating to the types of military equipment