

(b) Question does not arise

(c) Government will continue its efforts to promote our objective.

Low Level Radio Activity

*321. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKARA REDDY :
DR. SAROJA V. :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any nuclear low-level radio-activity was generated following the explosion in Pokhran;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the temperature in the country especially the areas surrounding Pokhran shot up as a result of nuclear tests;

(d) whether the Atomic Energy Safety Regulatory Board proposes to check the impact on environment due to low-level radio activity in the surrounding area of Pokhran; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) There is no radioactivity on a surface of the ground at the explosion sites. All the radioactivity is contained underground.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Since the experts of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) have visited the site and certified that there was no release of radioactivity in the area, there is no such proposal for the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB).

(e) Does not arise.

Jawaharlal Nehru Cultural Centre

3036. SHRI M. RAJAI AH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements of the JNCC (Jawaharlal Nehru Cultural Centre) at Indian Embassy, Moscow during the last three years;

(b) the strength of the present staff, category-wise;

(c) the number of the foreigners and Indians received training from it during the last three years; and

(d) the number of groups/troupes from India who had visited Moscow for cultural activities during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The functioning of the Jawaharlal Nehru Cultural Centre (JNCC) at Moscow during the last three years has contributed to a further consolidation of India's already close and multifaceted cultural ties with Russia. During the last three years, JNCC has organised cultural programmes, seminars, panel and round-table discussions, programmes to mark various special anniversaries, visits by Indian cultural troupes to different parts of Russia and by Russian scholars to India, regular classes for Indian dance, music, Hindi and yoga, essay and painting competitions, film shows, publication of books, etc.

(b) The strength of the JNCC staff, category-wise, is as follows:

- * India-based staff—6, consisting of the director, 4 teachers (Hindi, Yoga, Dance and Tabla), and Personal Assistant to Director.
- * Russian staff—7 plus 1 part-time, consisting of 1 Secretary/Interpreter, 1 computer assistant, 1 Administrative Assistant, 1 maid, 1 driver, 1 courier, 1 boilerman, 1 gardener (only during summer months)

(c) Approximate number of foreigners and Indians who have received training during the past three years at the JNCC is (i) Yoga-665 (620 foreigners and 45 Indians); (ii) Dance-485 (425 foreigners and 60 Indians); (iii) Tabla-350 (320 foreigners and 30 Indians); and (iv) Hindi-160 (all foreigners).

(d) Numerous cultural groups/troupes from India have visited Russia over the last three years. The major ones amongst these include:

A 12 member Kohinoor Langa Group in July 1995 to participate in the Second Festival of Music and Dance for Asia-Pacific Countries held at Krasnoyarsk.

143 Indian artists and others for the "Days of Indian Culture" in Russia, organized over a two week period in September 1996, and covering 12 Russian cities.

12 member folk dance and music troupe in September 1997 for the 850th anniversary celebrations of Moscow.

Money Stuck in Central Sector Projects

3037. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the total amount of money stuck in incomplete 233 Central sector projects in the country at current price.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : As on March 1998, out of 454 projects costing Rs 20 crores and above on the monitor of the Department of Programme Implementation, 234 projects were due for completion by March 1998 as per the original schedule but remained incomplete. The latest estimated cost of these 234 projects is Rs. 94,042.5 crore.

Kendriya Bhandar

3038. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have authorised Super Bazar and NCCF to supply items of stationery etc. to the Government Departments;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to constitute a Committee to monitor the price of stationery items at Super Bazar/NCCF/Kendriya Bhandar and circulate price list to all the Govt. Departments;

(c) whether any guidelines have been framed by the Department of Personnel and Training in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) According to the instructions of 14.7.1981 issued by the Government, prices of articles as are generally indented for by Government Departments etc. from the Kendriya Bhandar were required to be fixed by a Committee consisting of a representative each of the Departments of Supply, Works and Housing (now Urban Affairs and Employment) and the Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society (Kendriya Bhandar). Instructions regarding local purchase of stationery and other items required by Central Government Offices were subsequently extended to Super Bazar and NCCF, but there was no mention of the constitution of such a Committee. Due to frequent fluctuations in the market prices etc., the system of pricing by a Committee could not function. The instructions of 14.7.1981 have since been modified to do away with the requirement of the said Committee for fixation of prices of items being supplied by Kendriya Bhandar to the Central Government Offices. However, to ensure that there are no complaints on the quality of goods being supplied by the Kendriya Bhandar at fair and reasonable prices, instructions have been issued to Kendriya Bhandar to undertake survey on the level of satisfaction provided by it to the various user Ministries/Departments on yearly basis. Simultaneously, the Ministry of Food and Consumer Affairs, the administrative ministry for Super Bazar and NCCF, has been requested to consider introducing the system of survey in respect of Super Bazar and NCCF also.

[*Translation*]

UN Security Job

3039. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries where civil and army officers of India have been sent in regard to maintain peace and security in the current year;

(b) the number of Indian officials sent to each country;

(c) whether the expenses on their stay in the foreign countries are met by India or by international institution of the concerned country; and