

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to stop recurrence of such act in such a high security establishments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC), Valiamala near Thiruvananthapuram imported 103 pieces of aluminium bars from France. Out of these 3 bars were found to be missing from the Stores premises on 23.01.1999. A Police complaint was lodged and the Police have since arrested 4 persons and the stolen property has been recovered on 03.02.1999.

(c) to (e) As soon as the missing of the bars was known, an internal inquiry was ordered into the matter and to suggest remedial measures to prevent recurrence of such incidents. Steps have been taken to raise the height of the perimeter wall in certain areas and to augment lighting around Stores premises. Security surveillance including partrolling also have been strengthened in the area.

Nuclear Deterrence

*112. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "China against minimum Nuclear deterrence for India" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated January 28, 1999;

(b) if so, whether China has opposed any deal to allow India to have minimum nuclear deterrence in return for joining CTBT; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Indian Government on such opposition made by China?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Government have seen press reports cited above.

(c) Government did not subscribe to the UN Security Council Resolution 1172, which therefore, cannot provide

a basis for our ongoing dialogue with key interlocutors. We are currently engaged in this dialogue on the basis of a set of proposals made by India which clearly envisage, *inter alia*, the maintenance by India of a minimum credible nuclear deterrent.

Implementation of Agricultural Schemes

*113. SHRI S.S. OWAISI:
SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have signed any Memorandum of Understanding with State Governments for the implementation of Centrally Funded and State operated agricultural schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some schemes are to be amalgamated due to their duplication;

(d) if so, the details thereof and response of State Governments; and

(e) the steps taken by Government for better implementation of Centrally sanctioned and State operated schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The progress of implementation of Centrally sanctioned and State operated Schemes is closely monitored through periodical progress reports, review meetings and visit to States by the Area Officers, who have been nominated to oversee the development of agriculture in their respective State/Union Territory.

Investment in Agriculture

*114. SHRI K.S. RAO:
SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: