

To encourage usage of Hindi, the Ministry gives increments, cash awards and prizes to officers and staff. 10 officials were assigned to learn Hindi under the Hindi Teaching Scheme of the Department of Official Language. Ministry is also encouraging employees to learn Hindi through correspondence course run by the central Hindi Directorate.

[English]

MPLADS

5075. SHRI SOHANVEER SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of cases have come to the notice of the Government under Members of Parliament Local Areas Development Scheme that some officials delay the projects intentionally;

(b) if so, the manner in which the Government propose to compensate the increase in the cost of projects; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against those officials found guilty?

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) : (a) Some complaints of delay in implementation of works under MPLADS have been received.

(b) and (c) There is no provision in the guidelines on MPLADS to compensate for the increase in cost of project due to delay in implementation. However, whenever specific case of delay in implementation of projects under the scheme is brought to the notice of the Government, the matter is taken up with the concerned Administration/ State Government for appropriate action against the concerned officials causing intentional delay.

Sweet Poison

5076. SHRI K.P. NAIDU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the synthetic milk is being produced in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the enquiry conducted in this regard alongwith the nutrition value thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to make random check on milk suppliers to ensure its purity and retention of its nutritional value?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) No specific

case of adulteration in milk with foreign substance has been brought to the notice of concerned authorities during 1998.

(c) Sale of adulterated milk is prohibited and is punishable offence under the provisions of PFA Rules, 1995. The Food (Health) Authority of States/UTs have been advised to set-up surveillance measures to ensure quality to milk.

Atomic Power Station in Private Sector

5077. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to examine possibility of establishing new Nuclear Power Station, in private sector; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) The Government of India are open to specific offers for participation by private firms, Indian or foreign, in the nuclear Power sector. However, the Government have not received any concrete proposals from the private sector so far for setting up nuclear power plants in the country. Such offers, when received, have to be considered on the basis of technical suitability, economic attractiveness, the regulatory requirements of our country and the conditions attached to the offers.

Incentives to Scientists

5078. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :
SHRI SATYAPAL JAIN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of scientists involved in the recent nuclear test at Pokharan;

(b) whether any additional incentives are proposed to be given to these scientists;

(c) if so, the details thereof?

(d) whether the Government have a proposal to undertake post-shot drilling at the nuclear test site at Pokharan; and

(e) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) A number of scientists from the Department of Atomic Energy and the Department of Defence Research and Development Organisation were directly involved alongwith the personnel of the Indian Army and the Indian Air Force in the recent Nuclear Tests at Pokharan. In addition, a large number of scientists played an indirect