

[Shri H. N. Bahuguna]

Refineries Limited, for the year 1976-77.

- (2) Annual Report of the Cochin Refineries Limited, for the year 1976-77 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2165/78.]

DETAILED DEMANDS FOR GRANTS OF
MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COM-
PANY AFFAIRS FOR 1978-79

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs for 1978-79. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2166/78.]

DETAILED DEMANDS FOR GRANTS OF
MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL
AVIATION FOR 1978-79

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation for 1978-79. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2167/78.]

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of Ministry of Energy for 1978-79. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2168/78.]

DETAILED DEMANDS FOR GRANTS OF
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS FOR
1978-79 AND DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

FOR EXPENDITURE OF CENTRAL GOVT. ON
INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS
DEPT. FOR 1978-79

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BRIJ LAL VERMA): I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of Ministry of Communications for 1978-79. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2169/78.]
- (2) A copy of the Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) for expenditure of the Central Government on the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department for 1978-79. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2170/78.]

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER CUSTOMS ACT

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of Notification Nos. 86-Customs and 87-Customs (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th April, 1978, under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 together with an explanatory memorandum. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2187/78.]

12.27 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORT-
ANCE

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION'S REPORTED DECISION TO IGNORE ITS CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATION TO SUPPLY ENRICHED URANIUM TO INDIA

SHRI PRADYUMNA BAL (Jagat-singhpur): Sir, I call the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"The reported decision of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to ignore its contractual obligation to supply India with 7.6 tonnes of enriched uranium and reaction of the Government there-to."

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I explained on the floor of the House on the 23rd March 1978 in response to a Calling Attention Notice, our application for export licence of 7.6 tonnes of enriched uranium for Tarapur Atomic Plant was referred to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission by the U.S. Administration. This was done on 26th January, 1978 and the consignment was due for delivery in September 1977. But the matter was not disposed of by the Commission in time and only at the latest meeting of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission last week the question has been referred back to the U.S. Administration that on account of equality of votes, the Commission has been able to come to a decision. The matter now rests with the U.S. President. According to the American law however even after the U.S. President decides to authorise the export, the matter will have to be laid before the U.S. Congress for sixty working days and it is open to the Congress if it so decides to annul the President's action. In other words it would mean that if the President takes a decision in favour of authorising the shipment, we have to wait for 60 working days within which the U.S. Congress can annul the President's action, but if they do not annul the President's action it will remain confirmed.

The supply of enriched uranium is regulated by an Agreement for Co-operation between the Governments of the United States and India dated 25th October, 1963 followed by a Contract between the United States Atomic Energy Commission acting on

behalf of the Government of U.S.A. and the Government of India dated the 17th May, 1966. The Atomic Energy Commission of the United States has been abolished and now the matter rests with the U.S. Administration on the recommendation of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

I would not trouble the Hon'ble Members with the details of the provisions of the Agreement and the Contract. Under the provisions of domestic distributors changed, the Government is bound to provide us with all the fuel for Tarapur upto 1994 and at the same time they bind us not to obtain the required fuel for Tarapur from any other source during this period. There is also the provision in the Contract to the effect that if the applicable domestic laws or policies of U.S.A. with respect to ownership and supply of such nuclear material for use by the American domestic distributors be changed, the parties agree to consult with each other to determine the modification of any requirement of the Contract in order to conform to the laws and policies in force. At the same time it provides that nothing contained in the relevant Article shall affect the obligation of the U.S. Government to sell all of our requirement of enriched uranium for Tarapur Atomic Power Station, nor would it enlarge the financial obligations and responsibilities of the Government of India to the Government of United States as provided in the Contract.

To my mind, therefore, it is quite clear that neither the domestic laws nor the domestic policies of USA can affect the supply of Tarapur's requirements of enriched uranium and consequently both the delay in the supply of enriched uranium for purposes of Tarapur and, whatever the circumstances, the refusal to supply such requirements would be a breach of the Agreement.

Under the present requisitions pending with the United States Gov-

[Shri Morarji Desai]

ernment, supplies were due in September 1977 and are due in April 1978, June 1978 and October 1978. The supplies of September 1977 have not reached us and another instalment of supplies has become due. I am sorry that I am unable to appreciate the delays in processing our requisitions. The procedure regarding reference to Nuclear Regulatory Commission should have been resorted to in full recognition of the need for timely compliance with our requisition. We have held patience for a long and even the promise of the President of the United States made within the precincts of this august House in January last does not appear to have weighed with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in their deliberations over this matter. I have no doubt that the United States President actuated as he is by high moral purpose and in conformity with his obligation under the Agreement and Contract and in fulfilment of his promise will reach an early decision. But the requirements of laying his decision before the Congress will delay the supplies at least for another three months. This situation in itself is not alarming because I am assured that the present stocks of fuel will be sufficient to operate one of the two units upto about 1980 and another a little beyond 1980. The interregnum gives us sufficient time to evolve alternative methods of making up for the default of U.S. Government, should that become a lasting feature of the implementation of the Agreement and the Contract.

Nevertheless, I should like to make it clear that it is with considerable disquiet and disbelief that I view delay in compliance with our requisition of enriched uranium for Tarapur plant let alone the fact that refusal of supply would be a breach of the Agreement. Such a delay has occurred not only in the supply of enriched uranium but also in regard to our

request for a joint determination to the safeguardability of our re-processing facility as envisaged in the Co-operation Agreement. This has resulted in reduced generation of power and has prevented us from utilising the residual enriched uranium and the contained plutonium which not only has put us to substantial loss both from the material and monetary points of view but our own development has received a set-back. After the situation in regard to supply of enriched uranium against our requisition is cleared I propose to take up this question with the U.S. administration. So far as the supply of enriched uranium is concerned, I am taking up the matter with the U.S. President.

For the time being, therefore, we have to wait for such action as the President may take in order to clear our pending requisitions. I have already asked our Atomic Energy Commission to examine every alternative avenue to keep up the supplies of fuel for Tarapur plant in case the uncertainties of supplies from United States become a permanent feature. In coming to this decision I have taken fully into account the obligation of the United States to supply us with fuel and their refusal being a breach of the Agreement. I am conscious that any such refusal would bring to an end both the Agreement for cooperation and the Contract. We cannot allow such an eventuality to interfere with our programme for development of Atomic Energy for purpose of providing fuel for our power plants. I hope the House will view this matter in the light of this clarification.

SHRI PRADYUMNA BAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do appreciate the stand taken by the honourable Prime Minister in this respect in his negotiation and in his stance towards the US Administration, especially his personal discussion with the American President, Mr. Carter. But I have certain misgivings and rightly so when I see that double standards

are being used by the US Administration in respect of despatch of atomic fuel to European countries and to India. I think it is right to place facts here. This US law, that is, the Non-Proliferation Act, came into force on 8th April, 1978; and we had asked for this shipment of enriched uranium about 1-1/2 years back. In response to the agreement and the contract the U.S., as the Prime Minister has rightly observed, is under definite contractual obligation to fulfil and honour the commitments; and these commitments are holding good until 1994. So, whatever may be the legal position in the United States, a country of the stature of US must fulfil its international obligations which have been embodied in an agreement between the two governments, notwithstanding the fact that the Atomic Energy Commission of the US has been abolished, because there have been certain successor agencies which would have taken up the responsibilities. As has been stated in the statement, it is the US Administration which is directly dealing with this matter, with the recommendation from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission of the United States. Here, I will quote the opinion of dissenting members of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. There are two members: Mr. Victor Gluiansky and Mr. Peter Bradford, who have voted against the transshipment of nuclear fuel to India. Notwithstanding their opinion that it should not be sent, they have observed:

"The judgement is his to make, broader: and his freedom to act, more flexible."

'President' means Mr Carter. And then:

"That judgement is his to make, based on considerations that are legitimate, apart from those imposed on us by the Statute...."

The statute is the recent law. And the two members, viz. the chairman and....

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MR. SPEAKER: It does not matter. We are more concerned with energy, than with the chairman.

SHRI PRADYUMNA BAL: They are relevant. Their opinion is relevant.

MR. SPEAKER: This is a Calling Attention. Kindly be brief.

SHRI PRADYUMNA BAL: On April 7, 1978, President Carter has sanctioned shipment of this fuel, i.e. enriched uranium to 3 countries of Europe, viz. France, Germany and Denmark, in order to avoid these legal complications which were to come into force on the 8th. Under the circumstances, am I to believe that the US Administration is sincere in its desire and intention to send nuclear fuel to India; or is it a sort of—may I use that word?—trickery on the part of the US Administration to take the pretension that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission does not allow this shipment?

I will now formulate my questions. Will the Prime Minister tell this House whether we are taking immediate steps, by switching on to alternative methods of running the Tarapur plant, by developing the use of plutonium oxide-uranium mixture as fuel?

May I also know whether we are negotiating or will negotiate with other sources which are in a position to supply us with the requisite quantity of enriched uranium?

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot go on like this.

SHRI PRADYUMNA BAL: These are integrated things. I am initiating the calling attention. You must allow me, you must bear with me. You should not be impatient like this. I am asking a rather technical question which has to be gone into.

May I know whether it is also possible to re-cycle enriched uranium for recurring use? Will the Prime Minister

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ter also state firmly that because of our Prime Minister's or India's refusal to sign the non-proliferation treaty....

MR. SPEAKER: You have taken much more time.

SHRI PRADYUMNA BAL: our foreign and national policies will not be allowed to be influenced, much less guided, by the clever remote control pressure now alleged to be applied through this nuclear fuel deal?

MR. SPEAKER: I will not allow anything more.

SHRI PRADYUMNA BAL: Only one sentence.

If ultimately the USA refuses to supply enriched uranium except on its own terms, will India go to the International Court of Justice at the Hague, as this amounts to a gross breach of an international contract, and may I know whether the Prime Minister will defer his proposed visit to the USA until this matter is settled either way?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): May I say, while replying to the last question first about deferring my visit to the USA, that that question does not arise at all? And I do not know how it is linked up with this question. On the contrary, I can bring it home to them much more in person than from a distance. But, more than that, I have to go to the Disarmament Conference. I have to go to New York, and there is no question, therefore, of postponing the visit. We do not want to hurt ourselves by doing something, whatever they may want to do. There is no question of submission to any pressure whatsoever, and if they make a breach of the agreement, it is no use going to court. I do not propose to go to court. That will again delay matters further; I will have to wait. The moment they refuse, it is a breach of the agreement, and we are free to act on our own and utilise the

spent fuel and other things as best as we can. But we cannot take any of those steps just now when the agreement is not broken. If they do something wrong, we cannot do what would not be right for us to do. That also we have got to bear in mind.

SHRI PRADYUMNA BAL: I had raised about alternative methods?

MR. SPEAKER: He has said alternative methods will be considered.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI (Anantnag): I do not have any technical questions to ask the Prime Minister.

It was in March, 1976, that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission put off a decision on whether to release 7.6 tons of enriched uranium for the Tarapur Atomic Power Station or to hold public hearings before issuing the licence. Two of the four Members of the Commission considered India's application which was duly recommended by the State Department.

The position now is that a vote in the four-member Nuclear Regulatory Commission was a tie and this tie vote can be a source of a big nuisance from our point of view. The entire process will be delayed by months, thus adding to the complications of the Tarapur Power Station which is already forced to reduce its output to 60 per cent of its capacity. There may be no relief even when the 7.6 tons of enriched uranium now in dispute is delivered. The question is what will happen after that. Once this delivery is made, the problem is not going to be solved. I think every time we will have to go with the begging bowl to the Americans for enriched uranium.

Another request for delivery of 16.7 tons under the agreement is pending with the USA since November last.

It seems that a decision was taken— I would like confirmation of this by

the Prime Minister—by the Carter administration earlier in 1977, while approving the shipment of fuel, that the USA would not insist that India either open up all her nuclear facilities to safeguard through inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency or sign the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty—both conditions were unacceptable to India, and should be. Instead, it was stated that Mr. Carter would ask India just what he had asked West Germany, France or Denmark. The acceptance of the American conditions would mean not only that there would be no nuclear explosion but also that other nuclear programmes will be curtailed. This will retard our programme of atomic power generation and thus perpetuate energy deficiency.

The Prime Minister has declared that there is no need for nuclear explosions even for peaceful purposes. He has stated this on the basis of scientific knowledge which he acquired in his student days. He is within his rights to take a political decision and he should boldly admit it. But if the decision is taken on technical grounds then the matter should be left to experts and not to the knowledge of the Prime Minister. The fact is that it is a political decision. The present Government is keen to befriended the US Administration and obviously thinks, the surrendering of sovereign rights on nuclear development is a price worth paying for it.

In the statement, the Prime Minister has stated:

"I have no doubt that the United States President actuated as he is by high moral purpose and in conformity with his obligation under the Agreement and Contract and in fulfilment of his promise will reach an early decision."

To me, it seems that both the hon. Prime Minister, with due respect to him, and the American President are attracted to such a situation because

of their common trait of self-righteousness and high moral principles. Our approach would be only justified if it is accompanied by our single minded pursuit of the policy of self-reliance. India is more or less self-sufficient in nuclear technology and knowhow. But its dependence on an imported fuel will always subject it to blackmail by the U.S. Indications are that there are rich deposits of uranium in Himalayas, Chandigarh and in Bodal in Madhya Pradesh. Natural uranium is available within the country. I would like to know from the Prime Minister whether the Government will consider to make India self-sufficient in fuel by using plutonium produced from subsequent natural uranium. Will the Government make it abundantly clear to the United States that it will neither succumb to pressure nor yield to its blackmail? May I now, in the light of what is happening in the world and in this country, ask the hon. Prime Minister whether he has got any mind to change his earlier policy about nuclear explosions?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: How many times should I give an assurance, I do not know. Then it will perhaps be construed to mean that lady protests too much. I do not want to enter that category. I have definitely stated that we are not going to be pressurised by anybody. We will follow our policy of developing atomic energy for peaceful purposes and nobody is able to come in our way in that matter. I have stated that categorically. And that cannot be subjected to any safeguards by anybody unless it is on equal footing. Otherwise, it cannot happen. Therefore, I do not understand what troubles my friend in this matter. If they break the agreement, we are free to act on our own. But until they have broken the agreement, I cannot take the law into my own hands and do something which will give.... (Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I want to ask a question.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: You cannot ask a question. Please sit down.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Nothing to bar.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: You have no right to ask it.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I have the right to interject.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: You have not (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not in the Calling Attention. (Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am not asking a question; I am asking a clarification. He had just now stated about Calling Attention. I want a clarification on what he had stated.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please no.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: I cannot take any notice of an unauthorised interruption and I am not going to take notice of it. Just as I cannot be pressurised by the United States of America, I cannot be pressurised by my hon. friend also.

(Interruptions)

I have said what I had to say. I have nothing further to say.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Baldev Prakash.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not record.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: I am not interested in slanging matches.

डा० बलदेव प्रकाश (अमृतसर) :
तारापुर एटॉमिक प्लांट के लिए जो एनरिचड यूरेनियम न देने का फैसला अमरीका में एन आर सी द्वारा किया गया है, अमरीका और भारत के पीछे के सम्बन्धों को देखते हुए, उस में कोई नई बात नहीं है। ऐसा हमेशा ही होता रहा है। अमरीका भारत को लैट डाउन करता रहा है। पहली बार उसने ऐसा नहीं किया है। वह हिन्दुस्तान का तिरस्कार और अपमान करता आ रहा है। जो अब किया गया है यह एबजैक्ट ह्यूमिलिएशन है, यह मैं कहूंगा इस देश के लिए। पहले बोकारो स्टील प्लांट के मीके पर एड देने का मामला आया था। तब वह डिल्ली डीलिंग करता रहा, टालमटोल करता रहा। बाद में उसने न कर दी। आयाल एक्सप्लोरेशन का मामला आया। तब भी वही डिल्ली डीलिंग हुई और आखिर में न हो गई। बंगला देश का मामला आया। वह बहुत रिसेंट बात है। उस समय भी अमरीका ने हमारा वही हाल किया। अब क्या हुआ है? 1976 में यूरेनियम की सप्लाई रोक दी गई, एक साल तक यूरेनियम की सप्लाई रुकी रही और एक साल के बाद इलैबंथ भावर पर, आखिरी समय में जाकर फैसला हुआ कि शुरू की जाए और हम को एक लाख डालर खर्च करके यूरेनियम एयर लिफ्ट करके हिन्दुस्तान में लाना पड़ा। क्या हम भिन्न-मंत्रों की तरह किसी चीज की उससे माँग कर रहे हैं? हमारा उनके साथ कांट्रैक्ट है। कांट्रैक्टुल आबलीगेशन को तो उसको पूरा करना ही चाहिये। पैसा देकर चीज लेनी है। समझौता हुआ है। 1963 के उस समझौते के बावजूद इस तरह से अगर अमरीका हिन्दुस्तान के साथ बरताव कर रहा है तो उसका मतलब क्या निकलता है सिवाय इसके कि हमारे देश का अपमान हो रहा है।

बहाना बनाया जाता है कि रेडिएशन के फीयर के कारण से नहीं दे रहा है। हिन्दुस्तान न्यूक्लियर बम बनाएगा। हमारी सरकार ने स्पष्ट कर दिया है कि वह नहीं बनाना चाहती है, एटम बन नहीं बनाना चाहती है। एक कदम भागे जा कर हमारे प्रधान मंत्री ने यहाँ तक कह दिया है कि हम शान्ति के लिए भी अणु विस्फोट नहीं करना चाहते हैं। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि शान्ति के लिए करना हमारा अधिकार है, यह हमारे अपने राइट की चीज है। हम स्वतंत्र हैं। शान्ति के लिए अणु विस्फोट करना चाहे तो कर सकते हैं, कोई दुनिया की ताकत हमें ऐसा करने से रोक नहीं सकती है। आपने नैतिकता के आधार पर यह बात कही है। क्या अमरीका पर इसका कोई असर हुआ है? इय्या भी कोई असर उस पर नहीं हुआ है। कार्टर साहब यहाँ आते हैं और विश्वास दिला कर जाते हैं लेकिन अमरीका की जो कमेटी है वह हिन्दुस्तान की डिमांड को अस्वीकार कर देती है और उस बक्त अस्वीकार कर देती है जबकि तीन यूरोपियन देशों को उन्होंने एक हजार टन एनरिचड यूरेनियम भेजा है, उस दिन अस्वीकार करती है जब अमरीका नर्वेदा के अन्दर न्यूट्रान बम का विस्फोट करता है, फ्रांस करता है और हम पर यह आरोप लगाया जाता है कि यह जो फ्यूल बंधी हुई है उससे एटम बम बनाया जा सकता है। अमरीका यूनिलेटीली एग्ग्रीमेंट का तोड़ रहा है, डिल्ली डैलिंग कर रहा है, उस से देरी कर रहा है। पीछे भी उसने देरी से भेजा था और अब भी देर कर रहा है और इस सब को देखते हुए क्या आप अमरीका को स्ट्रोगली प्रोटेस्ट करने कि हिन्दुस्तान की जगत। इस तरह से इस बात को बरवास्त करने के लिए तैयार नहीं है? प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा है कि उनकी अमरीका की बिजिट के साथ इस चीज का कोई ताल्लुक नहीं है। मैं समझता हूँ कि जिसप्रामिटेड कन्फरेंस से इसका कोई ताल्लुक नहीं है। लेकिन अगर

कोई फ़ंडली बिजिट हो और इस फ़ैसले के बाद अगर हमारे प्रधान मंत्री को उस देश के फ़ैन्डली बिजिट पर जाना हो तो मैं समझता हूँ कि उनको नहीं जाना चाहिये। हमारे देश के विकास के लिये, यहाँ की गरीबी दूर करने के लिये हमें बिजली की प्रावश्यकता और उस बिजली के लिये जो साधन है उसकी मनाही की हो तो हमारे प्रधान मंत्री के वहाँ जाने का कोई सवाल पैदा नहीं होता। इसलिये सरकार मजबूती के साथ अमरीका से यह मसला उठाये। अगर इसी तरह में एग्ग्रीमेंट बनना है तो मैं समझता हूँ अमरीका से हमारे सम्बन्ध ठीक नहीं रह सकते, यह बात हमें देश को साफ शब्दों में बता देनी चाहिये।

श्री मोरारजी देसाई : कोई जवाब देने की जरूरत नहीं है, पूरा जवाब तो दे दिया है।

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrack-pore) Sir, I have gone through the Prime Minister's statement and his replies to various questions

I hope that the present decision of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission will end the euphoria which was started immediately after the Janata Government came to power. First we found all the Ministers making a beeline to the United States. Then we sent an Ambassador to the United States Mr. Palkhiwala, in order to please them, and the even debase to the level of taking the measurement of Mrs. Carter's feet for manufacturing chappals for her. Then we invited Mr. Carter to India, and with all the fanfare at our command, we welcomed him, which is very good because we are a hospitable country. But one small tape recording of a very cold and blunt letter to be written to Mr. Morarji Bhai spoiled the picnic. The next day the U.S. President took care to say to us Parliamentarians in the Central Hall here that there would be no difficulties in giving India the

[Shri Saugata Roy]

fuel. But now comes the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's decision.

Also it has to be noticed that this decision has come in the wake of the revelation that, even as far back as 1965, the CIA had planted a plutonium device in the Himalayas which only proves that it is the consistent policy of U.S. to work clandestinely or openly against those nations which have any chance of taking an independent stand on any matter. We are thankful to the Prime Minister that he has at least saved the honour of the country by taking an independent stand on the question of inspection of our nuclear installations by the International Atomic Energy Agency or any outside agency. But this stand of the Prime Minister has been modified by the concession we have given to the U.S. imperialists by saying that we will not have any nuclear explosion. We do not say that we want nuclear explosions for war purpose. But nuclear explosions can be carried out for purposes of scientific study and research like the one we did at Pokharan in 1975. Now the time has come for the Prime Minister to reconsider his earlier statement which, I think, was some sort of a concession to the Americans—which was that 'we stop all nuclear explosions'. Now the time has come for the Prime Minister to reconsider it in the light of this development.

I also want to point out that the Prime Minister's statement does not bring out the whole urgency of the situation. The urgency of the situation is that, from last year, Tarapur has been functioning at 57 per cent of its capacity because the United States has consistently refused permission for us to recycle the fuel waste from Tarapur; as a result, its capacity is falling. Whatever may have been stated by the Prime Minister's office, the fact is that, as has been reported by experts, Tarapur will last only for six more months and not upto 1980 or 1981 as the Prime Minister makes it out to be.

In this context, I want to ask the Prime Minister certain specific questions. My first question is whether, in view of the unilateral decision of the United States to violate a contractual obligation, India will take to any diplomatic reprisal which includes recalling of our Ambassador from the United States.

(b) Since they have broken the contract—and a contract can be only two-sided—whether we will try to contact USSR or France for getting alternative nuclear fuel supplies;

(c) As the fact is that we will take four years to manufacture plutonium oxide and natural uranium, what steps will be taken to expedite the manufacture indigenous fuel;

(d) Whether the Prime Minister will revise his earlier decision not to have any peaceful nuclear explosions;

(e) Whether the Government will go to the United States court because, according to U.S. law, a treaty is always self-executing. This was a treaty which the U.S. Government is violating; so it will go not only to the International Court of Justice but also to the U.S. court in regard to this contractual violation.

These are my five questions, and these are not philosophical ones, mind you.

13.00 hrs.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: I won't waste my philosophy; let him be assured of that. And I don't want to offer any unsought—for advice to anybody because that is stupidity. But he goes on doing it to me all the while. Let him do it; he can do only as his nature commands him to do.

Now, there appear to be some pro-bias. Some people suffer from the

USA phobia; some people suffer from the USSR phobia, some people suffer from some other phobias. We have no phobias and we do not believe in doing anything under pressure from anybody. That has been made very clear. The question of explosion for peaceful purposes does not arise in my view....

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Why not?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: Well, he is not a technician?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Neither re you.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: I am more in possession of technical advice than the Hon. Member. It is more available to me than to him.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Is it on the advice given or is it your personal view?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: He may say I am wrong, but it is I who have to decide and not my hon. friend Shri Sathe. That is the position today: I cannot help it. (Interruptions).

SHRI VASANT SATHE: We want to know your views as Prime Minister and not your personal views.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: The Prime Minister knows his duty. I am talking as the Prime Minister and not as Morarji Desai: let him understand that.

Therefore, I have decided that there will be no explosion because I have come to the conclusion, after going through it carefully, that there is no necessity for explosions for peaceful purposes. That is the conclusion I have come to. Experts may have different views. Well, that is peculiar to experts and it is therefore that I have got to take a decision; it cannot be left to any one expert. That is why I cannot give up my duty and that is what I have done. It was not

done to mollify USA or anybody else. That is not the question at all. But until the contract is broken it would be wrong on our part to act in a different way and that is why I have said that if they say 'no' the way is clear for us to do whatever we think is right for us to do and we will do that. As I have already hinted in my statement, we are considering all the steps which will have to be taken in case any contingency arises, but it would be imprudent for me to disclose everything that we propose to do. The Hon. Member may want me to be stupid because that will serve his purpose, but it does not serve the purpose of the country. I can say many things. (Interruptions). I can say several things about the explosion at Pokharan but I do not want to say it because it is not in conformity with the dignity of this country I don't want to do it. The Hon. Member wants to provoke me but I won't be provoked. It is not right. Therefore, there is nothing more to say. (Interruptions)

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR (Gorakhpur): First I would like to congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister for the bold statement and the stand he has taken. At the same time, I would like to say a few words also in order to ask a question.

The manner in which this USA Nuclear Regulatory Commission has ignored contractual obligation to supply enriched uranium to our country certainly indicates that some Members of that Commission are not very friendly to India or that they do not want to have better relations with this country. At the same time, I feel their decision is not morally high also. I do not want to go into the details of this, but I would like to ask a question from the Hon. Prime Minister. Whether Government will make it clear to the United States that if they are deciding not to supply this enriched uranium to our country, our relations may get slightly affected because of this? Secondly, when will

India become self-sufficient for producing this enriched uranium so that we need not always depend on the United States? I feel that the agreement which was signed by India at that time that uranium will not be taken from any other source, is a wrong agreement and it should not have been signed by the Government of India. Therefore, I would like to ask whether this Government is going to scrap this thing or it will continue.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: Well, my hon. friend can certainly claim wisdom for his suggestion when he says that this should not have been signed! Then we would not have entered into the agreement and Tarapore would not have come into existence. What is the use of sitting in judgment like this over other people. Simply because we don't like them? That is not in conformity with the interests of the country. (Interruptions). I can certainly tell my friends more strongly than I can tell them on that side. It is not right: it is not the correct attitude of all.

Now, as to what I should tell the USA President I think my hon. friend will be well advised to leave it to me and not advise me. (Interruptions).

13.05 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

SEVENTY-SEVENTH REPORT

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Idukki): I beg to present the Seventy-seventh Report of the Public Accounts Committee on paragraphs relating to Direct Taxes included in the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1975-76, Union Government (Civil), Revenue Receipts, Volume II.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

EIGHTH REPORT

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): I beg to present the Eighth Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings on Jute Corporation of India Limited—Government's Unfair Pricing Policy for Raw Jute.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

NINETEENTH REPORT AND MINUTES

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA (Aurangabad): I beg to present the following Report and Minutes of the Estimates Committee:

(1) Nineteenth Report on the Ministry of Railways (Railway Board)—Loss and Damage Claims on Indian Railways.

(2) Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating to the above Report.

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

SEVENTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH REPORTS

SHRI SURAJ BHAN (Ambala): I beg to present the following Reports (English and Hindi versions) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes:—

(1) Seventeenth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Tenth Report on the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs (Banking Division)—Recruitment of Management Trainees in the Allahabad Bank.

(2) Eighteenth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Forty-first Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) on