

About the other point mentioned by the hon. Member regarding environmental education, this is of prime importance as unless the people are aware of what ecology and environment means it will be very difficult to adhere to the principles of nature.

The second part of the question of the hon. Member was regarding a chemical factory and three cement factories that have been put up in the Doon Valley. This is a State subject. We are trying to convince the State Government that they should put up non-polluting industries in the fragile ecosystems. But this is something where we are at a stage of persuasion. The Department of Environment and many of our scientists forcefully feel that chemical and other polluting industries should not be put up in these areas. As you are aware, Sir, in the Doon Valley because of the high mountainous range, CO₂ cannot rise above a particular altitude and that creates pollution for the people in that area.

श्री कृष्ण दत्त सुल्तानपुरी : जैसा मंत्री जी ने बताया कि दून वैली के लिये एक बोर्ड बनाया गया है, तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि देहरादून के ऊपर का जो गढ़वाल का इलाका है उसी के लिये यह बोर्ड बनाया गया है या हिमाचल प्रदेश की रक्षा के लिये भी है। उस बोर्ड में हमें भी कोई नुमाईन्दगी दी है, या दूसरा बोर्ड हिमाचल के लिये बनाने का विचार है ?

श्री सो० पो० एन० सिंह : बोर्ड जो स्थापित होगा यह सिर्फ देहरादून के लिये नहीं है बल्कि पूरे हिमालयन रेंज के लिये है, उसमें हिमाचल प्रदेश भी आता है।

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Sir, during 1980, Madam Prime Minister had ordered the Ecological Committee, the Environmental Committee, to study the ecological problems in the union territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware of that and, if so, what action has been taken in this regard?

SHRI C. P. N. SINGH : A few people were asked to go into the aspect of ecological and environmental problem of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. But we were not able to send some of the eminent people that we had thought of. As you are aware, because of the forests in that area and the peculiar eco-systems there, unless the people who have had particular specialised training in those fields can get together and go there, I do not think a task force would have the requisite impact. We are still trying to get some eminent people to visit that area and I assure the hon. Member that it will be done very soon.

Supply of Enriched Fuel by U.S.A. to India

*450 **SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY + SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :**

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister, during her recent visit to USA, discussed with the U.S.A. authorities the question of supply of enriched fuel for Atomic Power Plants in India; and

(b) If so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS AND ENVIRONMENT AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH) : (a) and (b) According to the understanding reached between India and the United States during the recent visit of Prime Minister to Washington, France will assume the responsibility for supplying the fuel needs of Tarapur in place of the United States, within the framework of the 1963 Cooperation Agreement between India and the United States and various safeguards agreements which flow therefrom. Necessary modalities of supply are being worked out.

SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY : I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi for having successfully...

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Congratulate her for what? We did not hear the remaining portion.

SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY : Why don't you allow me to speak first? Allow me to speak first. I request the Opposition Members to have a little patience in allowing me to speak.

For having gone to the United States of America and successfully getting the required fuel for our atomic plants and also simultaneously improving diplomatic relations with the United States of America.

Yesterday, one Hon. Member from that side, a leader from that side, went on record in the House saying without ascertaining the facts he said in the House—that the Prime Minister's trip to America was a sell-out of the agreement which we reached with the USA. In this context, I would like to say.....

MR. SPEAKER : You are taking long time.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY : No, sir. I am very obedient Member of you. You have to allow me to formulate my question. I would like to ask.....

(Interruptions)

SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY : The Opposition people are politically motivated.

MR. SPEAKER : You put your question.

SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY : I am coming to the question. I am one of the very obedient Members. Please allow me to formulate the question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY : I would like to say that even the foreign Press has praised our Prime Minister's successful mission to the United States of America.

Coming to my question, a straight question, I would like to ask the Hon. Prime Minister whether.....

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHNAN : was a success?

SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY : That you will know; wait. May I know whether we will be allowed to reprocess the spent fuel of about 320 tonnes which lies buried near Tarapur Reactor now and also in future?

SHRI C. P. N. SINGH : Regarding the reprocessing facilities at Tarapur, in the agreement with the United States in 1963, a Clause was clearly there that we would be able to reprocess the spent fuel. Action on this particular aspect will be taken when the time is ripe and I am sure the Hon. Member will appreciate it because this question has come up a number of times and this is the action contemplated by the Government. In the initial part of the answer, I would once again reiterate that what the Hon. Prime Minister's visit has done, is, it has naturally facilitated a very severe backlog which we were facing owing to the non-shipment of the enriched uranium from the United States. This agreement naturally will now facilitate our power programme and also help in the future of this particular plant.

SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY : I would like to know whether our policy in future would be of attaining self-sufficiency in nuclear fuel and if so, whether the Tarapur Reactor requires only enriched uranium.

Our scientists have prepared a mixture which is called oxides of Natural Uranium and Plutonium which is, in short called, MOX.

I would like to know whether this will be used in Tarapur plant because we require Rs. 200 crores, I am told, for preparing enriched uranium and our requirement is 20 tonnes per year. Under these circumstances, in future, if we have to be self-sufficient in our nuclear fuel, we have to use the MOX fuel. I want to know whether we are going to use this MOX fuel in our reactor or not.

SHRI C. P. N. SINGH : The work for utilising MOX fuel is continuing and till now we have spent a substantial amount of money. I can assure the hon. Member that progress towards, the utilisation of MOX will not cease. In fact, we will continue. I would like to clarify here that Tarapur is the only reactor at the moment which uses enriched uranium. Our future programme is for natural uranium fuel, moderated heavy water cooled reactors, the prototype at Kota will lead to the installation of other reactors, which we plan to have all over India.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : While the entire nation is congratulating our hon. Prime Minister for her achievement in the . .

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Is it a necessary preliminary?

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY ; . . . Resumption of supply of enriched uranium to our atomic reactor, here some of the self-styled leaders on the Opposition benches have attributed motives in bad taste that India has signed an Agreement at the back of Parliament. Quite contrary to that, recently, during Madam Prime Minister's visit, the *Washington Post* has brought out a caption saying, 'Reagan Surrenders to India'. In this connection the French Foreign Minister also, during his recent visit to India, has stated very clearly that France has not insisted on any condition for the supply of enriched uranium to India. Here I would like to recall that the previous Janata regime had turned down the offer of France for the supply of enriched uranium on the same conditions which they are now agreeing to. In the light of this, I would like to ask a question. In this background I would like to know whether any conditions, apart from the 1963 Agreement, have been agreed upon by our country with France on the lines of the International Atomic Energy Authority safeguards.

SHRI C.P.N. SINGH: There arrangements that have been agreed upon with France are in consonance with, and adherence to, the 1963 Cooperation Agreement.

France is merely a sales contractor and there are no other safeguards, no other implications, that will arise in this particular agreement for supply from France.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I would like to ask a specific question regarding the question of recycling of the spent fuel. Our only source of information upto now is the newspaper reports, while we have been eagerly awaiting an opportunity to get fuller information from the Prime Minister herself. I would like to know whether the sovereign right of our country to recycle the spent fuel at Tarapur has been approved of unequivocally in the Agreement or whether that will be subject to certain conditions, certain requirements of inspection and so on, by the suppliers. I want to know whether this part of it, the recycling of the spent fuel, which is vital for our future, is an unfettered right which is recognised by both the U.S. and France or whether we will be subjected to certain conditions in that respect also.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): I think, it has already been made clear that there is no change in the Original Agreement of 1963. We have not renounced our right to reprocess.

(Interruptions).

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The question is whether they have accepted it. We have made it clear; I am quite aware of it. Do they agree to us or not or do they have some reservation?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: The American Government does have reservations. But that does not make a difference to our stand.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: I am also happy, the Prime Minister went abroad. If it were in my hands, I would like her to stay permanently abroad, but that is not our hands.

(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER: It is a silly remark.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: All-right. You take it off the record.

AN HON. MEMBER: It should be expunged.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: I agree that it should be expunged. She should permanently stay here. I would like to know from the Government...
(Interruptions).

AN HON MEMBER: You have been elected Deputy Leader.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: They can make fun of me and I cannot make fun of them? Sir, this is one-sided....

MR SPEAKER: Now at least you have become serious.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: I would like to know from the Government why in view of the fact that the Janata Government had rejected a similar proposal and in view of the fact that when Mr Malone, the Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Security Affairs came here and this Government also told him that this Tarapur Agreement; if the United States reneges on their side, will be scrapped and also in view of the fact that the Foreign Minister said on the floor of the Parliament that if the United States does not supply according to the contract, the treaty would be buried, why this change has come about since the Prime Minister's visit? Why have they agreed to revive a treaty whether by proxy or any other method when originally they had committed to scrapping it?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: The treaty was not buried. So there is no question of resurrecting or reviving it.....

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: But it was declared dead.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: No, it was not. What we had said was what we would do if the USA refused to honour it. The words of the treaty are not that the United States itself will supply the fuel. The words are that they will make arrangement

to supply it. I do not recall the exact words but that is the meaning. So, they can supply from any other country or ask any other country to make the supply. Even before France had made an offer to us. Its coming within the terms of the treaty makes no difference.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: I would like to know from the hon. Prime Minister. Will she tell us now in view of this situation that Tarapur is a very important and crucial factor in our power production and this has been drawing the attention of the whole country? I would like to know. The Prime Minister said that the Americans still have reservations. In view of their reservations will the Government go ahead with its right of recycling this used fuel? Will the Government go ahead or will the Government still wait and negotiate with the Americans that they will agree to this proposal and then they will take the next step.

Another question connected with this is that the French Foreign Minister, when he visited last, called on the Prime Minister also and the Press reports say that the French are also under obligations and they are also insisting on two conditions which the Americans are also insisting. Is there any difference in this supply which we will get from France now?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: I did not discuss the agreement either with the Americans or with the French. This was done by officials. Most of the issue was sorted out before my visit. The French Foreign Minister has himself stated that it is entirely within the frame-work of the 1963 Agreement. There is no new element in it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: What about the first part of the question?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: The first part has already been answered by my colleague—that as and when necessary we will process.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY: I would like to know from the hon. Prime Minister whether it is a fact that the Government of India has agreed that the spent fuel in Tarapur will be stored for 5 years and there will be no reprocessing and you have agreed with the Government of United States and if so will that not pose a security risk and also is that not going to impinge upon our sovereign right to reprocess the fuel? The first part is whether there has been any such agreement that for five years it will be kept and there will be no reprocessing and if it is true, does it not mean that we have surrendered our right to use it in our own way?

MR SPEAKER: I think she has already replied.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: It has been replied twice over.—No right has been surrendered. As and when we think it is necessary, we shall go ahead with the reprocessing.

SHRI RATANSINH RAJDA: I would like to know from the Prime Minister. Prime Minister has already announced in the year 1980 and there were several announcements on behalf of our Government and the External Affairs Minister also said it and Mr. Sethna also said it. Sir, due to tantalising delay in supplying the enriched Uranium, the Prime Minister had talked about the alternative supplies of fuel to Tarapur and that India can reprocess that fuel. Thereafter, she talked about giving a decent burial to the entire Agreement. Is it a fact that pursuant to this announcement, we spent about Rs. 35 crores in developing the MOX (Mixed Oxide Fuel) which was a technical break-through? Now, what will happen to this technical break-through? Will it not be a tremendous loss to this country and would it not demoralise our scientists who have worked day in and day out?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: No technical break-through can ever be a loss. It is always a gain; and, I can assure the hon. Member that our Scientists are not demoralised.

Proposals for Setting up of Industries in Bihar

*451. **SHRI D.L. BAITHA :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) whether any proposals to set up certain industries from the Government of Bihar are pending with the Central Government for issuing licences; and

(b) if so, the names of the units and the period since when these are pending in each case with reasons ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) and (b) : Twelve letters of intent were granted to Bihar State Government undertakings during 1980 to 1982 (upto July).

Five applications for grant of letters of intent received from these undertaking are currently under consideration. Out of these five, three were received on 23-6-82. One application received on 7-4-82 was considered by the Approval Committee of 1-6-82 and decision deferred at the request of the administrative Ministry to enable them to put up a consolidated proposal covering other pending applications.

The fifth proposal, which was received in 1981, is at the final stages of disposal. Some time was taken to complete the process of inter-Ministerial consultation which had to be gone through before evolving the licensing policy in this behalf.

श्री इमर लाल बैठा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इसमें यह स्पष्ट नहीं किया गया है कि 1980 से 1982 तक कुल कितने आवेदन-पत्र प्राप्त हुए थे जिनमें 12 को स्वीकृति दी है। पांच आवेदन-पत्रों पर अभी विचार किया जा रहा है। ये 12 और 5 मिलाकर 17 हुए। इसमें यह भी माना गया था कि कौन-कौन तरह के उद्योग के लिए आशय-पत्र मांगे गए हैं और नाम भी पूछे थे।

इसके अतिरिक्त एक बात और भी है कि 7-4-1982 को जो प्रार्थना पत्र प्राप्त हुए थे