

"Pollution of Ganga Water"

*358. SHRI SURAJ BHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the survey of Central Pollution Control Board, the pollution of Ganga water is steadily increasing and that at certain stretches, it is not only unfit for human consumption but also unfit even for irrigation purposes; and

(b) how does it compare with the pollution reports of other important rivers of India?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir. Stretches of Ganga immediately downstream of Kannauj, Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi, Patna and Calcutta are polluted and the water in these stretches is unfit for human consumption, but is generally fit for agricultural purposes.

(b) In terms of Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand only the river Sabarmati immediately downstream of Ahmedabad, is more polluted than the Ganga.

Separate Ministry for tribal Development

*359. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose having a separate Ministry for taking care of the development of tribals of India with a national policy for the development of tribals;

(b) if so, by what tune;

(c) if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) is it a fact that State Governments are not making serious efforts for the speedy development of tribal areas in the country;

(e) the reasons for the disparity from State to State, sometimes from District to District in granting recognition to Scheduled Tribes; and

(f) whether Government will bring some Constitutional amendments where the tribals can get a national recognition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) to (c). The question of creation of a separate department in the Ministry of Home Affairs for development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is under active consideration.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f). In accordance with Article 342 of the Constitution Scheduled Tribes are specified in relation to each State. There is no proposal to bring any Constitutional amendment to alter the existing provision.

Allocation for Tribal sub-Plan of West Bengal

*361 SHRI BASUDEB ACHARYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to tribal sub-plan of West Bengal in the year 1982-83; and

(b) the amount of special Central assistance provided to West Bengal for implementation of tribal sub-plan for that year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) and (b) The financial outlay of the tribal sub-plan 1982-83 of West Bengal is Rs. 23.32 crores comprised of Rs 19.22 crores of flow from the State Plan and Rs. 4.10 crores of Special Central Assistance. Besides, funds of Centrally sponsored schemes and institutional finance are expected to enhance the total size of the tribal sub-plan.

Offer of Soviet Union to set up a Giant size Nuclear Power Plant in India

*362. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY:

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: