

any rainfall. Therefore, I wanted to know if the Government has imported any technology for the disposal of this nuclear waste instead of putting it in my district—Kolar district. This is a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER : You want the technology to be imported to put it somewhere else ?

DR. V. VENKATESH : They can put this nuclear waste somewhere else.

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : So far as the question of dumping nuclear waste in the hon. Member's district or any other district is concerned, actually, we have made careful arrangements for storing of any nuclear waste. We have only a very small quantity of nuclear waste and it is within our capacity to store it safely and carefully. And I think, the hon. Member can rest assured that there is no question of dumping nuclear waste in his district.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : The Prime Minister while intervening in the earlier question said that he is rather suspect about capability to respond to the panic reaction that may arise out of such a situation. Therefore, I would like to know from the Hon. Prime Minister whether any experimentation is made about the potentialities of the panic reaction and to meet such a situation.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : I was not referring to the panic reaction. I was referring to a total reaction of what would happen and we are looking into this to see how prepared we are and how we will react. The Atomic Energy Department has its own methods. They have been carrying out studies, they have been carrying on exercises, but we can only just cross check that and see what our true capabilities are and if necessary enhance those capabilities to build up the impact that would be required.

Activities of Army Welfare Housing Organisation

*231. **SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU :** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of his Ministry has been drawn to the non-compliance of statutory provisions about annual audit of accounts and approval of the general body by the Managing Committee of the Army Welfare Housing Organisation ; and

(b) if so, the remedial action taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) and (b). Army Welfare Housing Organisation is a Society registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860. The Society is managed by a Board of Management headed by the Adjutant General and it meets at least once a year. Day to day management is carried out by an Executive Committee.

2. Certain complaints against the working of the Army Welfare Housing Organisation were received in the Ministry of Defence. The Organisation has, however, confirmed that statutory provisions about annual audit of accounts and approval thereof have been complied with regularly in accordance with the Regulations and Bye-laws of the Organisation.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : This AWHO, the Army Welfare Housing Organisation, is a concern of the Government, through it is a Society registered under the Societies Registration Act. There is a full time Chairman for this AWHO, who is General Mazumdar. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether this organisation is a part and parcel of the Government, and secondly, whether any general body meeting has been held from 1981 onwards, and whether the Government has received any

complaints from the organisation with regard to their grievances.

SHRI ARUN SINGH : As far as the first part of the question is concerned, no, it is not part of the Government. It is a society registered under the Societies Act. Regarding the second part of the question, the full-time Chairman and all the members of the board of management are ex-officio. There is no individual as such as Chairman. The Chairmanship rotates as postings are change. As far as meeting of the general body is concerned, in this particular society, as registered under the Societies Act, there is no such thing as general body. It is the board of management that runs the society. There the members meet regularly, once a year minimum. And as far as complaints are concerned, we are not in a position to intervene in their functioning directly. We do, however, if there are any complaints, pass on the same to the society.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : From 1981 onwards there was no general body meeting held. If there was a general body meeting, I want to know the date on which the general body meeting was held. I want to know that from the hon. Minister specifically and categorically because I am told by some of the officials of the Ministry that there was no general body meeting so far from 1981 onwards. But you say that the general body meeting was held, which is wrong. Another thing is, when Mr. Mazumdar, who is the Adjutant General, is the full-time Chairman of this organisation, is he not a part and parcel of the Government? Mr. Sen is also occupying the post as a full-time Managing Director. This organisation has constructed some flats from 1983 onwards in NOIDA. The flats have not been constructed properly. The contractors had not finished their work within the contracted time of March, 1983. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the grievances have been redressed to the satisfaction of the members of the organisation.

SHRI ARUN SINGH : As I started of by saying this is a society registered

under the Societies Act, which means that it has certain bye-laws which constitute the grounds for its registration. As far as the bye-laws of this particular society are concerned, there is no provision for calling an annual general body meeting. There was never such a provision and the society is so registered. There is no provision of getting the accounts ratified by the general body. There is a board of management. The board of management sees the accounts. They have internal audit as well as external audit. All that we can do in the Ministry of Defence is to ensure that the regulations governing the registration of this society are complied with.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : When was the general body meeting held? I want your protection, Sir. There was no general body meeting held from 1981 onwards.

MR. SPEAKER : He says that it is not under his domain.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : I am not satisfied with the answer. I am sorry to say that.

SHRI ARUN SINGH : I shall take up the case on behalf of the Member. As I understand, the byelaws are very clear under which the society is registered. However, in view of the Member's complaint, I will pass on his complaint to the Registrar of Societies, Delhi.

MR. SPEAKER : That is the proper authority to do it.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : In the Army Welfare Housing Organisation, a large number of ex-servicemen are employed in the Class III category. About a couple of years back, there was a strike. There was also a complaint against the management of the society that their pay had not been fixed. The scales have not been made applicable to them *vis-a-vis* their pension and there is a big anomaly between the fixation which is done in other public sector enterprises and other registered societies where ex-service men

are working *vis-a-vis* this society. Is the Minister aware that such complaints were forwarded to the Ministry? Is something being done for them? If so, what is being done?

SHRI ARUN SINGH : I am afraid, I will have to repeat my original answer. This is a society registered under the Societies Registration Act. I am not in a position to intervene as Government. Should the Member have a complaint, he can raise it either with the Registrar of Societies, Labour Commissioner of Delhi or anybody he likes.

[Translation]

Indo-Australia Co-operation in field of Science and Technology

*233. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether agreement for co-operation in the field of science and technology has recently been reached between India and Australia ; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the agreement ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) A new Agreement of cooperation in the fields of Science and Technology between the Governments of India and Australia has been signed in Canberra on 15th October, 1986.

(b) The Salient features of the agreement are to :

(i) Promote cooperation in civil scientific and technological research and development, particularly those relevant to economic and social development.

(ii) Implement this through exchange of scientific and technical information and visits of scientists.

(iii) Carry-out collaborative projects and make available the outcome to the world's scientific community subject to consultation between the two Governments.

(iv) Review progress of cooperation.

[Translation]

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply that an agreement in the fields of Science and Technology between India and Australia has been signed. He has also stated that there will be exchange of visits of the scientists of both the countries who would study the technology and scientific development. I would, therefore, like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government of India has decided to send such a team of the scientists. If so, how many scientists will be included in the team, that will be the criteria for their selection and the time by which the team is likely to tour Australia ?

[English]

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN : Several scientific delegations have gone to Australia in the past and we intend to send more delegations in future. We have not composed any particular delegation right not.

[Translation]

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the country has not made progress to the extent it should have in this field. In Dauna Paula in our country, a National Institute is being run but not much progress has been made in