

Officer, we ensure that both the officers are posted in the same State and as far as possible the State to which both the officers are posted is not the home State of either officer. Save this exception, we have not made any departure from the policy of allocating only one-third of direct recruits to the home State.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I would like to congratulate the hon. Prime Minister for having organised this workshop for District Magistrates. Is the Minister aware that from West Bengal only three District Magistrates have attended this workshop. Why not others? We have come to know that our Chief Minister has prevented them from attending this workshop. What is the reason and what action the government has taken in this regard?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I don't think it is quite correct to say that only three District Magistrates attended the workshops. I am speaking from memory because the question does not relate to the workshops. Except for one workshop where they could not attend because I think they were tied up with either the panchayat election or flood or whatever it may be the West Bengal Government did send its officers to the workshops. It is to the credit of both the Government of India which organised the workshop and the District Magistrates who attended the workshop that none of them went back and said anything which would support the deep-rooted suspicion of the hon. member, Shri Amal Datta and others.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : May I know from the hon. Prime Minister—the development work in the State is under the charge of the Centre also—whether the Chief Minister of a State has also equal rights to advise the concerned officer of the Central Government Secretariat in the case of development in the State and give direction to him?

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Since when this reverse process has started?

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I cannot

imagine a situation where the Chief Minister of a State gives directions to the Central Secretariat. What I do find is, all the time they are giving advice to the Central Government.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if Bengal Government get an opportunity, they will change the course of Ganga towards Gangotri (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : If you come alone, I will tell you a couplet. Later we can translate that.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER ; Shri Banwari Lal Purohit. Absent. Shri H.N. Nanje Gowda. Absent. Shri Jadeja.

Curtailed of New Atomic Power Plants

*287. **SHRI D.P. JADEJA** : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have noted that many advanced nations have reduced their dependence on atomic energy by curtailing their plans of building new plants;

(b) the reaction of Government to such a reversal of policy overseas;

(c) whether even developing countries like Philippines etc. have retracted from starting their atomic energy plants; and

(d) whether in view of a general feeling amongst scientists and ecologists, Government propose to review the further increase in number of plants generating atomic energy in the country?

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

Statement

Curtailed in building of new atomic power plants for answer on 17.8.88

(a) Some countries like Sweden, Finland, Italy have decided to reduce

their dependence on atomic energy for power generation. However, this is not a uniform trend in the world. A number of countries are also proceeding with their nuclear power programmes. The net installed nuclear power capacity in the world is expected to grow by about 18% between end 1987 end 1990.

- (b) Reduced dependence on atomic energy in some countries in the world is because of their comfortable position in respect of electrical power production, availability of power from neighbouring countries, and to some extent due to public opinion. As far as India is concerned, in the context of energy resources available, there exists a need for nuclear energy to supplement other energy resources to increase installed power capacity in an optimal manner.
- (c) Phillipines and Iran, amongst developing countries, have suspended work on reactors where construction had commenced.
- (d) All steps are taken to protect the ecology and environment as also to adhere to safety standards in setting up of Indian Nuclear Power Plants. These aspects are examined in detail and clearances are obtained prior to setting up of each plant.

SHRI D.P. JADEJA : It is heartening to note that the Government of India is continuing with their programme of atomic energy for peaceful purposes. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, as there are certain centres like cur-unit in Bombay which require extra protection from natural hazards and from a neighbouring country, what special steps has the Government taken to protect these vital projects ?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : All I can say is that all possible steps are being taken to protect the vital projects from the hazards of the type mentioned by the hon. Member.

SHRI D.P. JADEJA : We are glad to hear that all possible steps have been taken and we do hope that there would be no problem in the vicinity. I would like to ask the hon. Minister, since there are developing

countries in the world like Argentina and Brazil which have taken extra safety measures as far as protection of the environment is concerned wherever they put up such protection, will the Government consider sending a special study team to those countries so that we can also adopt the measures taken by those countries ?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : We are aware of the environmental protection measures being adopted by countries like Brazil and Argentina as well as by the other countries including developed countries. We do take environment into consideration in every respect and our atomic energy plants are engineered as well as run according to the principles of protecting the environment.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, our country has made remarkable achievement in the field of atomic energy, particularly in the sphere of precise heavy water reactor and fast breeder reactor technology. We are at par with the developed countries in this field. In view of our concern for environment and our remarkable achievement in this field, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the target fixed by the Atomic Energy Department to generate 10,000 MW of power by 2001 AD, will also be continued in Eighth F.v. Year Plan or there is any indication of change in the target ?

[*English*]

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : The programme will continue in the Eighth Five Year Plan. In fact, it would be intensified and our objective is to produce 10,000 Megawatt of nuclear power by 2000 AD.

SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether a decision has been taken by the Government to buy 2,000 Megawatt of power from the Soviet Union.

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : That matter is, if I may say so, at the final stages of decision making, but the decision has not been finally taken.

Propellant for Future Rockets

*288. **SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state ;