

compliance with safety codes and standards during the design, construction and operation of nuclear facilities. The Nuclear Power Board has been constituted to implement the nuclear power programme in the country including design, engineering, construction and operation of nuclear power stations.

(b) It should be noted that no fatalities resulted from the Three Mile Island incident. Reports by the concerned U.S. authorities regarding the incident at Three Mile Island have been received and studied by the authorities in India. Besides, immediately after the Three Mile Island incident the Department of Atomic Energy constituted a Committee to draw appropriate lessons from the incident. These lessons have been applied in the design, construction and operation of nuclear power plants in India.

(c) The Department of Atomic Energy participates in open discussions on nuclear safety and continues to make relevant information available to the public.

Bungling In Centaur Hotel

1289. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news items appeared in the Hindustan Times, New Delhi dated the 15th January, and 16th February, 1985 pointing out alleged financial bungling, misuse of materials, misuse of foreign exchange and other irregularities in the Centaur Hotel, Delhi.

(b) if so, whether he got the matter investigated and fixed responsibility for the various irregularities pointed out therein ; the outcome thereof and remedial measures taken ;

(c) whether Government had at any stage considered a proposal to bring the Centaur Hotel at Bombay and Delhi

under the control of the India Tourism Development Corporation, the other public undertaking in his Ministry, to ensure its better working and thereby cut down its overheads ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL
AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The allegations mentioned in the news item were investigated and it was found that there was no substance in them.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. This question was considered and taking all relevant factors into account it was decided to keep the identities of Hotel Corporation of India Ltd, and India Tourism Development Corporation separate.

Pakistan Efforts to Make Bomb

1290. SHRI A.P. SETHI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that United States of America has expressed its feeling that Pakistan has not abandoned its efforts to make the atom bomb and that any nuclear activity by the South Asian country would be counter-productive ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Mr. Richard P. Cronin, an expert on South Asian Affairs, had recently visited India and expressed his views in this regard ;

(c) whether he has also said that U.S. Government had told Pakistan not to make the bomb and instead depend on Washington for its security ; and

(d) if so, the details regarding his views in this regard ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :**

(a) In congressional testimony on 28-2-1985, a representative of the U.S. Administration had stated that the U.S. security assistance to Pakistan was designed to strengthen Pakistan's confidence in its security, and thereby convince Pakistani leaders that the nuclear option was neither necessary nor in Pakistan's broader interest. It was added that the Administration have made clear to Pakistan that a lack of restraint in the nuclear area would have a very serious and negative impact on U.S. ability to continue the programme of economic and military assistance which commenced in 1981.

(b) to (d) Mr. Richard P. Cronin, a specialist on South Asian Affairs with the Congressional Research Service visited India from January 24 to February 14, 1985. According to newspaper reports in India, Dr. Cronin expressed the view that Pakistan has not abandoned its effort to make a bomb and that any nuclear activity by that South Asian country would be counter-productive. The press reports state that Dr. Cronin had said that U.S. Government have told Pakistan not to make the bomb and instead depend on Washington for its security.

Development of Transport in States

1291. **SHRI AMAR ROY PRA-
DHAN :** Will the Minister of PLAN-
NING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that regional imbalances in India are responsible for uneven development of transport facilities in the States ;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard ; and

(c) if not, what facilities were provided to States for development of transport during all the Five Year Plans ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R.
NARAYANAN) :** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There are two Centrally sponsored programmes in the Transport Sector under which financial assistance is provided to States. These schemes are (i) the development of roads/bridges of inter-State and economic importance, and (ii) development of inland water transport. For roads/bridges of inter-State importance, Central financial assistance is provided to the extent of 100% of the original cost of the works. For Intra-State roads of economic importance 50% of the cost is provided as Central financial assistance to States. For the development of inland water transport, 50% of the cost is given to the States concerned for selected schemes under this programme.

The Centre also contributes to the capital of State Road Transport Corporations under the Road Transport Corporations Act. Presently, this contribution is 50% of the concerned State Government's construction.

The Centre's outlay/expenditure on Centrally sponsored schemes under (i) road and bridges (ii) inland water transport and (iii) Capital contribution to State Road Transport Corporations in the Five Year Plans is given in Statement annexed. Most of the investment for development of transport, however, is in the Plans of the States.