

has been made by the Nuclear Power Corporation to AERB for raising the power level in steps upto 75% and subsequently to 100% of full reactor power. This is under consideration by AERB. The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board has recently taken a decision to the effect that when an operational authorisation is given for any atomic power plant, it shall be initially for a period of five years and shall be reviewed thereafter.

[*Translation*]

Manned Space Satellite

3232. SHRI NANDLAL MEENA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent on space research during last three years;

(b) whether the programme of sending man into space will continue; if so, the names of astronauts proposed to be sent into space; and

(c) whether any procedure has been laid down for their selection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) Details of total amount spent on Space Research during last three years are given below:—

(*Rs. in Crores*)

1986-87	309.99
1987-88	347.09
1988-89	422.37

(b) At present, the Department of Space

has no plans for sending man into Space.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Wasteland in Tamil Nadu

3233. SHRIP.R.S. VENKATESAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total area wasteland in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the total District-wise data of the wasteland has been proposed to be collected;

(c) if not, the reasons for not collecting Districtwise data;

(d) whether any new scheme is proposed to be implemented for the utilisation of this land; and

(e) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) The total area of wastelands in Tamil Nadu has been estimated to be 44 lakh hectares.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). Central and State Plan Schemes for afforestation, social forestry and wastelands development are already under implementation in Tamil Nadu. The total coverage achieved in the State during the Seventh Plan period has been about 4.15 lakh hectares upto January 1990.