

Kerala MES Employees Union, Cochin have sent representations expressing their objection to involving outside agencies in these defence works.

(d) In respect of the Naval Base at Karwar, it is for the first time in the country that an integrated Naval Base is being designed, planned and established from scratch in a green field site. The complexity of the work involved requires introduction of very high technology in marine works. As all this technology is not indigenously available, a foreign consultant consortium has been appointed to assist the prime consultant in the work of preparation of a Master Plan and the detailed project report.

In respect of the Naval Academy at Ezhimala, since it was intended to be a very prestigious national complex, it was considered that architectural competition would draw the best talent from within the country in preparation of its Master Plan. This competition was open to the MES also.

(e) Firm estimates of the costs of these two Projects will be known only after the preparation of the DPRs.

#### **Radio Activity in Coastal Districts of Kerala**

1021. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether studies have revealed the existence of radio activity in the Coastal Districts of Trivandrum, Quilon and Alleppey in Kerala;

(b) if so, the causes for this phenomenon;

(c) the extent of radio activity and possible effects on man, animal and vegetation in the area;

(d) whether radio activity has been found in other coastal areas of the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The beach sands of these coastal districts contain a radioactive mineral called monazite which results in the presence of radioactivity.

(c) The monazite content in the beach sands varies between 0.5 to 5% from location to location. Monazite is a rare earth phosphate compound and contain about 10% thorium (as thorium oxide) and 0.3 uranium (U 308). Studies so far conducted have not shown any statistically significant effects on humans, animals and vegetation in the area.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Monazite has also been found to occur in the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh.

#### **Arms Export Corporation**

1022. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD:  
SHRI KALP NATH RAI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up an arms export corporation aimed at gearing up the country's armaments industry; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposed set-up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A decision regarding the establishment of a suitable agency for the promotion of export of defence stores is expected to be arrived at in the near future.

**Deemed University Status for Deccan College Poona**

1023. SHRI UTTAMRATHOD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to declare the Deccan College Poona, as a deemed University/National Centre for archaeological research;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which a final decision will be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) to (c). On the recommendation of the Government of Maharashtra, and the advice of the University Grants Commission, the Central Government has, under Section 3 of the U.G.C. Act 1956, declared the Deccan College Post graduate and Research Institute, Poona, as Deemed to be University with effect from 5th March, 1990.

**Effect of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 on Development of Marathwada Villages**

1024. SHRI UTTAMRATHOD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amendment made in

1988 to the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has adversely affected the development in hilly and tribal areas of Marathwada in Maharashtra;

(b) whether villages like Mohpur, Hadsani and other villages could not be connected by roads due to the above mentioned Act;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure unhindered development of the said tribal areas?

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) No, Sir.

(b) No proposal has been received from the State Government of Maharashtra for diversion of forest land for construction of road connecting Mohpur and Hadsani villages.

(c) Complete proposals received from State Government will be examined expeditiously for according clearance.

[*Translation*]

**New Atomic Power Plants**

1025. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN:  
SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA  
NARASIMHA RAJA  
WADIYAR:  
SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA  
MURTHY:  
SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of power being generated by each Atomic Power Plant;