

fouling which are affecting an increasing number of people living within 10 Km. radius of this thermal power station suffering from bronchial maladies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Steps have taken for installation of high efficiency electrostatic precipitators to replace the units which are not effectively functioning. According to the plan, these units are to be installed by December, 1987.

Report of Vaghul Committee on developing a bill market

1208. DR. B. L. SHAIKESH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since examined the Report of the Vaghul Committee on developing a bill market;

(b) its impact on the exclusion of the financial institutions like the LIC, GIC and UTI from the inter-bank money market plan; and

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India has also considered the Report, and if so, its reaction thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c) The Report of the Vaghul Committee is under examination in the Reserve Bank. No action is required to be taken by Government at present. The RBI would, no doubt, take a view on the overall impact of the recommendations of the Committee, including those on LIC/GIC/UTI, while considering the Committee's recommendations.

Programme to develop Indian Rare Earths Ltd.

1209. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any programme to develop the Indian Rare Earths Ltd., located at Alwaye; and

(b) the steps taken to dispel the apprehensions about radiation ?

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) Yes, Sir. The Rare Earths Plant of IRE Ltd. at Alwaye in Kerala, operating since 1952 is being modernised and the existing product range is also being diversified.

The Plant at Alwaye is posing no radiation danger to the plant workers or the surrounding population or to the environment. The safety practices in vogue in the Plant are regularly being explained to the population of the area through the medium of the Press, All India Radio and T.V. to dispel any apprehensions about radioactivity.

Experiments in artificial rains in Rajasthan

1210. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have conducted any experiments in artificial rain making;

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

(c) whether Government propose to conduct any such experiment in desert areas of Barmer and Jaisalmer in Rajasthan ? -