

American arrested at Tarapur Nuclear Plant

8162. SHRI A. ASOKARAJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any American was arrested last month at the Tarapur Nuclear Plant under highly suspicious circumstances, and

(b) if so, whether any action was taken against him?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): (a) and (b). An American national was found in the prohibited area of the Tarapur Atomic Power Plant, by the security staff on the 14th February, 1978. He was handed over to the local police who registered a case against him for trespass under Section 120-B, of the Bombay Police Act. He was produced before the Judicial Magistrate, Palghar (District Thane) and was convicted and sentenced to two days simple imprisonment. It is further understood that he is under psychiatric treatment for schizophrenia in the G. T. Hospital, Bombay.

Canvassing by Vice-Chancellor of Dayanand University in a Bye-Election

8163. SHRI INDER SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item published in "Tribune" dated the 31st January, 1978 that Vice-Chancellor of Mahrisht

Dayanand University, Rohtak (Haryana) addressed a public meeting at village Charra on the 29th January, 1978 organised by one of the political parties in regard to bye-election of Badli constituency of Haryana held on the 5th February 1978;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the said Vice-Chancellor carried on door to door canvassing on behalf of a particular candidate on the 3rd February, 1978 and 4th February, 1978 in the said bye-election of Badli constituency;

(c) is it a fact that the said Vice-Chancellor also used University Staff Car for the purpose of above electioneering in Badli constituency; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken against the said Vice-Chancellor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Coal famine

8164. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported statement by the Chairman, IMF published in Hindustan Standard of 23rd March, 1978 under caption 'Miners warn of coal famine'; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The points made by the Chairman, Indian Mining Federation in his