

(c) if so, the immediate steps that are proposed to be taken to assure adequate supply of drinking water to these villages ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI D. P. CHATTOPADH-YAYA) : (a) Yes.

(b) No. The water supply tubewells are sunk into deeper strata and do not affect the hand pumps and wells in the surrounding villages which are sunk in shallow water. The Chandigarh Administration has reported that the drying up may be due to extensive exploitation of water for agriculture or natural lowering of spring level.

(c) In order to extend water supply to the nearby villages, the Chandigarh Administration have asked the villagers to deposit the cost of extending water supply lines to their areas .

#### **Manufacture of Nuclear Weapons**

1417. PROF. S. I. SAKSENA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state Government's policy in regard to the manufacture of Nuclear weapons and how India proposes to meet the Chinese threat to our security ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM) : Government's policy on the manufacture of nuclear weapons has been explained in Parliament on several occasions. It is to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes only. Government believe that the defence of our borders can be best ensured by adequate military preparedness based upon conventional weapons. In their view, the possession of nuclear weapons is no substitute for such military preparedness. Our assessment as well as our plans are naturally kept under constant review, the paramount consideration being given to the need for safe-guarding national defence and security.

#### **Termination of Production of Pushpak Aircraft by Hindustan Aeronautics**

1418. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hindustan Aeronautics is

going to terminate the production of the Pushpak Aircraft ; and

(b) the reaction of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) and (b) All orders placed for Pushpak Aircraft have been completed by HAL (Bangalore Division). At present there are no further orders for manufacture of Pushpak aircraft. Production can be resumed if further orders for a sufficient number of aircraft are received.

#### **Provision of shelter to persons sleeping on pavements in Delhi**

1419. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated number of persons who sleep on pavements in Delhi ;

(b) the class of people among those who sleep on pavements ;

(c) the number of persons who died of exposure during the last winter and sunstroke during the last summer as they had no roof over their heads ; and

(d) the schemes formulated by Government to provide shelter to these people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) About 7,000.

(b) Generally people who are Jhalliwalas, rickshaw and handcart pullers shoe-shine boys etc.

(c) None as a result of sun-stroke and 10 as a result of exposure to cold.

(d) There are 10 permanent night shelters in Delhi. During the winter of 1970-71, 11 more night shelters were opened on temporary basis. These 11 temporary night shelters were closed on 31st March, 1971. During the winter season of 1971-72, subject to the availability of funds, temporary night shelters will be opened according to requirements.