

day use. And it happens with every new technology that comes. Atomic energy is no exception to that. At the same time, we have one of the best safety records in our atomic power plants. As the Hon. Minister has just now said, there has been no accident on the atomic side, of our plants. Now, our safety record is very good. But there is one area where we have weakness and I would like this House to have a debate on this issue as well, that is, about our capacity to cope in case there is an accident. That means : Is our system safe enough ? Supposing something does happen—it is highly unlikely because our record is very good, our precautions are good; we have double containment and it is unlikely anything will happen—what about our capacity to cope with it ? In case something happens, how much capacity we have, how capable we are all in handling that. I have already asked our Departments to go into it and develop that capacity. That has to be there. For example, when it happened in Bhopal, what was our capacity to cope with the disaster that took place there ? So, I have asked them what will be our capacity in case something happens.

Demand for a separate Tribal State

*123. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any report of a seminar of tribal leaders held at Jamshedpur in October, 1986 in which a demand for a separate Tribal State was raised as reported in the Statesman dated 20, October, 1986;

(b) if so, Government's views on the demand;

(c) whether the speeches made at this seminar were encouraging separatism; and

(d) if so, the steps Government intend to take ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (d). Government have seen the relevant Press Report. The Conference held at Jamshedpur from 19th to 21st October, 1986 is reported to have adopted Resolutions demanding creation

of a Jharkhand State within the Indian Union.

Such demands arise on account of economic imbalances. The Government is of the view that such imbalances in a particular State or region should be tackled through the mechanism of planning and the creation of a separate State may not be the answer to the problem.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Sir, the demand of Jharkhand State has been there for more than three decades. The Government has said that it is because of the economic imbalance. The Government depends upon the mechanism of planning.

Sir, we know that we have a Special Tribal Development Plan. We have Tribal Sub-Plans. They have been implemented and despite that, the imbalance still exists. Therefore, I want to know, whether the Government—in view of the fact that almost all the Jharkhand parties have assembled on one platform, including the Vice-Chancellor of Ranchi University and have demanded a Jharkhand State, otherwise, they will resort to a movement have proposed to take any effective step and if so what effective step does the Government proposes to take for the implementation of the plans, in order to remove these imbalances which have been in existence for the last three years, despite the planned development ?

S. BUTA SINGH : Sir, we have noted the seriousness of the decisions which were taken on that Conference. I propose to have a separate meeting with the State Government and also they will be advised to take suitable steps which should go to eliminate the economic imbalances, the backwardness of the area and also to have some kind of a feeling among the people that they are not neglected. These decisions taken in this Conference have already been conveyed to the Government and the State Government is in touch with us. We will take appropriate steps. But the implementation of the sub-plan, so far as the States affected by the decisions of this Conference are concerned, has been by and large satisfactory, except one State, where the implementation falls short and that is Orissa. The other States have implemented the Tribal Sub-Plan to

the satisfaction. Some States have over-shot the target like, Madhya Pradesh, where it is 136.6 per cent, West Bengal, 256.9 per cent.

Orissa falls short by achievement of 95.4 per cent of the target. Therefore, the responsibility squarely lies with the Government of Orissa and we are taking up the matter with them.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : From the reply, it appears that the tribal plans have been more or less effectively implemented, so as to achieve 90 per cent or so, of the targets. Yet, the imbalance continues. Have Government thought of going into the reasons for this imbalance and the seething discontent and resentment among the Adivasis who are demanding a separate State consisting of the 21 districts of West Bengal, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar? What is the reason that they are feeling discriminated against, exploited and deprived? All kinds of feelings are there in their minds. Merely depending upon the mechanism of planning may not be an answer to their demands. Therefore, my question is whether Government, instead of writing to the State Governments, are going to take some effective steps before the movement gathers momentum, and becomes strident and turns violent.

S. BUTA SINGH : I am in full agreement with the Hon. Member. Broadly, the reasons which are in the minds of those leaders who attended this conference are : large scale alienation of the Adivasis' lands, exploitation of the tribals by the money-lenders, unemployment in general inadequate development of the area, very scanty spread of education as also the exploitation on the part of the missionaries of the region. They are exploiting the poor tribals. These are the broad underlying practices which are contributing to this kind of a demand by the Adivasis of the region, which is spread among 3 or 4 States. In addition to that, in the conference the basic issues which were raised prominently by the leaders, were that they wanted reservation in jobs for tribals of the Jharkhand region in the other States. They all wanted the teaching of the Jharkhandi language at all levels in the region, and the broadcast of Jharkhandi programme over the radio and television.

These are some of the basic issues on which the leaders are trying to build the movement. Naturally, these issues must be attended to by the State Government; and also, wherever Central Government's assistance is required in the implementation of programmes, e.g. in respect of land alienation, large scale exploitation by money-lenders, steps could be jointly initiated by the States and the Central Government. We are very keen that all these basic issues must be attended to, before any agitation takes a turn for the worse.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIV PRASAD SAHU : Mr. Speaker, I would like to tell the Hon. Minister that resentment amongst the tribals of Chota Nagpur and Santhal Pargana, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa is not new. This resentment has been there for the last 40 years. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government jobs reserved for them are being given to them properly or not? Today, the displaced persons are not getting jobs, they are cheated, Government are giving crores of rupees to Bihar. Are these funds being properly spent or are they being usurped by the middlemen? Their demands pertaining to railways are not being met and as a result of all these factors, resentment amongst them is increasing. Not only this, Jharkhand Mukti Morcha is going to start an agitation from the 17th instant and a number of parties are participating in the Morcha. The news reports of yesterday suggest that they are prepared to take up arms and a dangerous situation is going to be created. I would like to ask the Government, especially the Prime Minister, whether some foreign hand is there in creating disturbances in the tribal areas of Chota Nagpur, or is Punjab type situation going to be created there? What steps are the Government taking to tackle this situation?

S. BUTA SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I share the concern expressed by the Hon. Member as I did in the case of Shri Satyendra. We are aware of the seriousness of the situation. It will be our endeavour, in liaison with the State Government, to see that this agitation does not become violent. We shall try to find solution to these problems before the situation gets out of

hand. The State Government will establish contact with the leaders and will pay attention to their serious problems. Efforts in this direction are already going on.

I also agree with the contention of the Hon. Member, and the reports that we have received also point to that that the development of Chota Nagpur area has not taken place the way it should have been. The monitoring which the Central Government has started new points to these facts. It will be our endeavour to see that monitoring is made more effective.

[English]

SHRI C. P. THAKUR : Recently, we had a seminar on 'youths rural unrest in Bihar'. Some of the youths who took to extremism before, were, anyhow, converted and all were unanimous on one point that whatever grant, whatever project, whatever aid the government gives to these areas, whether it is Adivasi area or some other area in Bihar, all is eaten by the middle man and that does not reach the common man. Whatever report government gives, it is the same machinery which is giving grants that is monitoring its performance. Therefore, in Adivasi areas, unless government comes out with some positive steps to see that the money reaches that particular person, particular poor Adivasi, the problem is not going to be solved. So, what steps the Central Government is going to take in this regard? Simply saying that it is a matter for the State Government to take up and we will talk to the State Government is not enough as the situation has reached to such a stage.

S. BUTA SINGH : As I mentioned briefly in answer to Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha's question, we, in the revised 20-point programme, which is now just taken up for implementation, have made special provisions, and I would like to mention them. Under the heading 'Point 11', —justice to SC and ST the government shall ensure compliance with the constitutional provisions and laws for SC and ST, and ensure possession of land allotted to the SC and ST, revitalise land allotment programmes, organise and assist special coaching programmes to improve educational standards, eradicate scavenging and under take special programme

for the rehabilitation of safai karamcharis, provide better direction and adequate funds for the special component programmes, pursue programmes for the fuller integration of SC and ST with the rest of the society and ensure rehabilitation of the tribals displaced from their habitats. These are the new dimensions that we propose to give in the implementation of 20-point programme; and as I had just now said, we will not leave the monitoring only to the State authorities; the Central Government will take the monitoring and wherever there are short-falls and drawbacks, we will take appropriate steps to see that these programmes are implemented in all seriousness.

Air pollution

*124. **DR. K. G. ADIYODI :** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether steps have been taken by the Centre for Earth Science Studies, Trivandrum to assess air pollution;

(b) the details of infrastructure available in our country including at Trivandrum to assess air pollution;

(c) the details of steps taken in various parts of the country in connection with the research on atmospheric sciences; and

(d) the steps taken to reduce air pollution in major cities of India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) :
(a) to (d). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A network of 67 ambient air quality monitoring stations has been set up in various parts of the country by the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute and the Pollution Control Boards. In addition, facilities are available in different organisations including the Centre for Earth Sciences, Trivandrum for specialised studies relating to air quality and atmospheric sciences.