

ter also urged the members of the coordination committee of the Babri Masjid movement to postpone the contemplated march to Ayodhya on 14th October, 1988, and assured that the Government would try to have an out of court settlement on the Ram Janmabhoomi/Babri Masjid issue and failing which the legal process will be got expedited. Consequent to this assurance of the Government the coordination committee of the Babri Masjid called off its proposed march to Ayodhya.

Material support in terms of para-military forces and equipment is provided to the State Governments as and when occasion arises or demands are made to ensure them to effectively manage and control the riot situation on the ground. Further, the Central Government has circulated a set of guidelines to the State Governments to help them manage communal violence and restore as well as re-inforce communal harmony. Amongst these are the guidelines for preventing and controlling communal violence, the guidelines for processions and guidelines for relief and rehabilitation measures.

Apart from the above, from time to time, the National Integration Council has been deliberating on the long term measures of evolving a secular society. The report of the Standing Committee of the National Integration Council has been commended to the State Governments.

Lessons have been drawn from the recent riots e.g. the Meerut and based upon this experience a fresh set of guidelines was circulated to the State Governments on 26th February, 1988.

In view of the happenings in Punjab and other parts of the country, the question of prevention of misuse of religious institutions for political and illegal purposes as also in the context of separation of religion from politics, the need was felt to check this misuse immediately and accordingly the Religious Institutions (Prevention of Misuse) Ordinance, 1988 was promulgated on 26th May, 1988. Subsequently, a Bill to replace this Ordinance was introduced in the Mon-

soon Session of Parliament which was enacted on 2nd September, 1988.

[English]

Improvement of Heritage Sites

*157. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to the reply given on 1 September, 1988 to Unstarred question No. 4710 regarding "improvement of heritage sites" and state:

(a) whether the draft proposal to landscape Sarnath has since been submitted to Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the proposed work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Inclusion of Certain Castes of Orissa in Scheduled Caste List

*158. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Orissa are seeking permission from Union Government to issue caste certificates in favour of Pana-Bainshab, Kandara Bainshab, Gokha Bainshab, Hadi Bainshab, Dhaba or Dhaba-Bainshaba, Bouri Bainshaba etc. as these castes are synonymous to Pana, Kandara, Gokha, Hadi, Dhaba, Bouri castes which are in the Scheduled Castes list; and

(b) the steps taken by Union Government or propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE* (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) and (b). A request has been received from the Government of Orissa to modify the existing list of Sched-

uled Castes in Orissa. The above proposal along with similar other proposals is being considered in the context of comprehensive revision of the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In view of article 341 of the Constitution, no amendment in the existing list of Scheduled Castes can be made except by an Act of Parliament.

Smuggling of Uranium on Indo-Nepal Border

*159. SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in September 1988 an arrest was made at Indo-Nepal border for possessing enriched uranium;

(b) if so, the quantity of the uranium and the estimated value thereof;

(c) whether Government have found out the source from where the arrested person acquired the uranium; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY ELECTRONIC AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (d) Government have seen press reports about the Bihar Government Excise Department Officials having seized refined uranium from a Ranchi based business man on the Indo-Nepal Border. However, the Department of Atomic Energy has received no report from concerned authorities about uranium having been seized from the arrested person. Facts of the case are being ascertained from the State Government.

[English]

Indo-US Agreement for Research

*160. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have entered into an agreement with the United States to conduct research by scientists in various fields;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) to what extent the scientists will achieve their goal in research?

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) While no fresh formal agreement has been concluded with the United States recently, the Gandhi-Reagan Science and Technology initiative was extended for a further period of three years beginning October 1, 1988.

(b) Under this extension, some of the ongoing projects have been identified for continuation, and some new topics proposed in the areas of Health, Agriculture, Biomass, Monsoon Research, Engineering and Solid State Sciences.

(c) It is expected that the implementation of research projects will help in the attainment of significant results.

Candidates selected for Short Service Commission

*161. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the candidates selected for Short Service Commission or Permanent Commission do not turn up for training after selection; and

(b) if so, the number of such candidates in the last three years and the reasons for their not joining the training programme?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.C. PANT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is given below.