

LOK SABHA DEBATES

1

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, June 11, 1980/Jyaistha 21,
1902 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.*

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE
(Jadavpur): To many of us the Question List was not supplied till you came. Our leader has not received it. I only want to bring this to your kind attention, so that in future this does not happen.

MEMBERS SWORN

श्री भोगेन्द्र झा (मधुवनी) अध्यक्ष महोदय,
मुझे अनुमति दी जाये कि मैं अपनी मातृ-भाषा
मैथिली में शपथ ग्रहण करूँ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय आप हिन्दी में कर लीजिये,
वह तो होगा नहीं।

श्री भोगेन्द्र झा चूंकि आपकी अनुमति नहीं
मिली, इसलिये मैं हिन्दी में ही कर रहा हूँ।

Shri Bhogendra Jha (Madhubani).

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA
(Serampore): Today the Question
List was not circulated to us.

MR. SPEAKER: It has already come
to my notice.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA:
This is a serious lapse on the part of
your department.

MR. SPEAKER: We will look into
it.

2

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Supply of Heavy Water by USSR

*41. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will
the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to
state:

(a) whether Government have
sought any assistance from the USSR
for supply of heavy water;

(b) whether it is a fact that the
USSR has agreed to give heavy water
for Indian atomic power plants; and

(c) whether the conditions of
supply are the same as those propo-
sed by USA and if not, how they are
liberal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY AND SPACE (SHRI
VIJAY N. PATIL): (a) and (b)
Under an arrangement concluded in
March 1980 the Soviet Union has
agreed to supply 256 tonnes of heavy
water to India.

(c) The supply of heavy water from
the Soviet Union under this arrange-
ment does not require application of
full scope safeguards. On the other
hand, the present domestic law in the
United States calls for the application
of full scope safeguards for such sup-
plies.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: In view
of the fact that after the 1974 peaceful
atomic explosion, various countries
have been indifferent to us in the sup-
ply of heavy water and the Soviet
Union has been bailing us out as on
previous occasions, I would only like
to know whether India would be
under any obligation to open up its
atomic installations for international

inspection for using or utilising Soviet heavywater.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): No, Sir

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Since there is a shortage of heavy water in the international sphere and India's requirements are more than its indigenous supply, what are the steps being taken to develop indigenous supply, especially at the Talcher and other plants?

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Steps are being taken to develop indigenous supply, especially at Talcher, but at present, because of power shortage, we are finding it difficult.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: The answer of the Minister is that full-scope safeguards have not been asked for or agreed to, but that is only a small part of the real question. The real question is whether the abnoxious part of the full-scope safeguards *viz.*, the principle of pursuit has been agreed to. I have seen the newspaper accounts where the Government have said that they have not agreed to any condition. I would like to know whether the principle of pursuit has been agreed to—in that sense it is a departure from the past—and whether the Government would agree to lay on the Table of the House this agreement so that it does not remain a secret and mysterious thing and it becomes a question of trading charges only.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: The only person who has framed charges is the hon. Member himself. Most of the newspaper reports are of his speeches, so far as I know. Somebody else also might have mentioned it, I do not know. But I am saying this from what I have seen. There is nothing secret about the agreement. We have not deviated from our previous position in any way.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: My question was whether the principle of

pursuit has been agreed to and whether the Government will lay on the Table a copy of the agreement.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: We will have to consider whether it can be laid or not. I do not know what the rule is in this regard. When I said we have not deviated from the previous position, it means that we have not agreed to anything which was not there before.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: The Government of India deserves congratulations for they have not deviated from the stand they have taken constantly on this issue.

AN HON. MEMBER: Are you sure?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: I am sure and I have no doubt about it. I would like to know what is the full requirement of heavy water for our countr and whether this arrangement with the Soviet Union is a temporary one, by which we are going to meet our immediate difficulties or it is going to be some kind of an agreement which will meet our requirements in future also. The second thing that I would like to know from the Prime Minister is whether President Carter has made a statement that he would specially intervene to see that Tarapur plant gets heavy water. What has happened to the public pronouncement by Mr. Carter? And whether he now stands by it or not?

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: We would have heavy water sufficient for a year and adequate quantity will be used for the second plant in Rajasthan. Tarapur plant does not require heavy water. It requires only uranium.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Obviously, we are meeting all our requirements. The hon. Member mentioned President Carter's statement. The President has not yet taken action on it. We would rather wait and see whether the USA is fulfilling

its part of the agreement, in which case that would solve our problem for some years. If it does not, then we have to reconsider the matter. As regards laying a copy of the agreement on the Table, I may say that the agreement is public and is available with IAEA.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: I cannot go to Vienna to get it.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: I said that it is a public document and that there is no problem.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Why don't you lay it on the Table?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Since it is a public document, there is no problem about laying it on the Table of the House. I am saying this now because earlier I had said that we would have to look into it.

SHRI HARINATHA MISHRA: Is it a fact that President Carter had expressed only his intention, and has never taken any executive action on the promise?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: That is so. But the hon. Member knows that there is a certain reaction in their Congress. No action has yet been taken.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state (a) whether any other country, apart from America has agreed to help us out of our present difficulties with regard to nuclear fuel for our atomic power plants and if so, the nature of such assistance offered and the constraints, if any, in accepting them and (b) when the dependency on external agencies for our nuclear fuel requirements will end?

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: About nuclear fuel, the question is coming next. As far as the heavy water is concerned, there are other countries

which are producing heavy water, that is, Switzerland, Norway, etc. We have not asked them because we are going to get sufficient quantity of heavy water.

Land acquired by Andaman and Nicobar Administration at Gandhinagar Port Blair

*42. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) whether it is a fact that Andaman & Nicobar Administration had acquired land at Gandhinagar, Port Blair, a few years back for Government use, if so, the persons from whom it was acquired and the area of land acquired from each person;

(b) whether the said persons were provided adequate compensation, if so, the details of such compensation paid to each person and if not, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government made allotments of such lands to others for their use, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government have received any representations from the affected persons; if so, the action Government contemplate to take on them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table.

Statement

In 1958 the Andaman and Nicobar Administration resumed a total area of 11.7 HA of land at Gandhinagar, Port Blair from seven persons who had violated the terms and conditions of the allotment. The names and