

(a) the number of complaints received about death and killing of wild animals and protected species by forest fire and poaching incidents during December, 1989 to July, 1990 in Madhya Pradesh and the action taken in this regard; and

(b) the names and number of the animals killed?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROUFRAY): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[English]

Transfer of spouses of Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers at the same station

1858. SHRIAMRATLAL VALLABHDAS TARWALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the provisions governing transfer of Kendriya Vidyalaya teachers whose spouses are posted/living in different places; and

(b) the details of such teachers who have served in North Eastern Region for more than 3 years and yet are not transferred to the places where their spouses serve along with reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) Provision exists in the transfer guidelines of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan for transfer of a spouse for joining the family subject to availability of vacancies.

(b) Teachers working in North Eastern Region are also extended the above facility. However, no such statistics are maintained in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (Head-quarter).

Posting of Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers

1859. SHRIAMRATLAL VALLABHDAS TARWALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether teachers posted in Kendriya Vidyalayas of North East Region are entitled to transfer to a place of their choice after a stay of 3 years in the region;

(b) if so, the details of relevant provisions;

(c) whether a large number of teachers posted in North East Region were not transferred in last session though they had stayed there for more than five years or so; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The teachers of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan working in the North East Region are entitled to transfer to a place of their choice after a stay of three years in the region, on the same pattern, mutatis-mutandis, as applicable to Central Government employees, subject to the availability of vacancies.

(c) and (d). The teachers covered under the instructions were given transfers in last session on availability of vacancies. However, in respect of teachers specially recruited in 1984 for North East Region, the decision to consider them eligible for transfer outside North East Region, has been made applicable with effect from 1990-91, as per the transfer guidelines of the Sangathan.

Environmental Hazard due to Nuclear Power Plants

1860. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MEWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the environmental hazards of nuclear power plants and the dangers arising therefrom to the population nearby;

(b) whether a system exists to study the dangers arising from radiation etc;

(c) whether Government propose to set up a high power body of experts to evaluate the environmental aspects of nuclear power plants;

(d) what has been safety record of RAPP, Rawatbhatta, since its inception; and

(e) the steps being taken to ensure improved safety?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir. During normal operations there is no danger to the population nearby, since all necessary precautions are taken and safeguards implemented.

(b) Yes, Sir. Research on effects of radiation on biological systems is a continuing efforts.

(c) The existing regulatory frame work provides for continuous review on safety and environmental aspects relating to nuclear power plants. Environmental Survey Laboratories (ESL) are set up at all operating nuclear power stations to continuously monitor samples of water, soil, food, air, and various other products for radioactivity contents. ESL start functioning prior to the start of nuclear power station operations to establish base line data for future comparison. The findings of ESL's are reviewed by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB).

(d) The safety records of RAPP, Rawatbhatta has been very satisfactory par-

ticularly from the point of view of environmental aspects.

(e) Improvements in safety at nuclear power plants in a continuous process. This is achieved through safety reviews at three levels, namely Station Operations Review Committee at plant site, Unit Safety Committee with members outside the station and Safety Review Committee of AERB. Operational performance from safety angle is finally reviewed by AERB.

Problems of Food Irradiation

1861. SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether food irradiation process presents some problems such as changes in food constituents and destruction of some essential nutritional constituents;

(b) if so, the reasons for going ahead with food irradiation;

(c) whether Government are aware that western consumers are bound to protest and reject irradiated food from India;

(d) whether Government are aware that the entire process of use of radioactive material and irradiation also exposes workers and handlers in Atomic Energy Isolife Units and Irradiators to serious danger; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to prevent its dangerous effects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) There are changes in the food constituents and essential nutrients which occur as a result of irradiation, but at prescribed dose levels these are minimal and the wholesomeness and nutritional adequacy of such foods have