

**February 22, 1973**  
**Rajya Sabha Q&A on the Type of Fuel for the Indian  
Nuclear Power Program.**

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**Summary:**

Transcript of questions and answers between members of the Rajya Sabha and the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, on whether to use thorium or uranium as a fuel source for nuclear power. Gandhi reports that thorium would be preferable.

**Credits:**

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Hindi

**Contents:**

Original Scan

अधिकृत अखबारी कागज का उपयोग कर 1971-72 में उसकी खपत के आधार पर किया जाता है।

(ग) जी, हाँ। 1972 के दौरान तीन शिकायतें मिली थीं। दो मामलों में परिचालन सख्या की फिर से जांच की गई तथा सम्बन्धित पत्रों की परिचालन सख्या में सशोधन किया गया। तीसरी शिकायत विचाराधीन है।

(घ) अखबारी कागज की कमी होने के कारण समाचारपत्रों की अखबारी कागज की मांग पूर्णतया पूरी करना संदा सम्भव नहीं हो सका है। इसका आवण्टन आयातित तथा देशी अखबारी कागज की उपलब्धता को ध्यान में रख कर हर साल बनाये जाने वाली तादिके अनुसार किया जाता है।

† [THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI I K GUJRAL). (a) and (b) The latest available information on the names of newspapers published from Madhya Pradesh is contained in Part II of the 'Press in India' 1971, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library. Names of newspapers which have applied for newsprint and their entitlement for the licensing period 1972-73 are given in the statement attached

[See Appendix LXXXIII, Annexure No 10]

Under the revised Newsprint Policy for 1972-73, the newsprint allocation to each newspaper is based on its performance in 1971-72 by the utilisation of authorised newsprint

(c) Yes, Sir Three complaints were received during the year 1972. In two cases, fresh circulation checks were undertaken and the circulation

† [ ] English translation

of the papers concerned was revised. The third complaint is under examination

(d) It has not always been possible to meet the newsprint requirements of newspapers in full as newsprint is in short supply and allotment is made on the basis of the policy framed every year with due regard to availability of imported and indigenous supplies]

#### NEW METRES TO REGISTER TELEPHONE CALLS

\*81 SHRI SWAI SINGH SISODIA-  
SHRIMATI LAKSHMI  
KUMARI CHUNDAWAT

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that new types of metres to register telephone calls have been installed in some places on an experimental basis, and

(b) if so, the details of the working thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H N BAHUGUNA)  
(a) No Sir

(b) A "STD charge Indicator" capable of recording STD calls only has been designed by the Telecommunication Research Centre of P&T Department and is now under field trial. The question of installation of such meter will be taken up only when the results of field trial are known to be satisfactory.

#### BASIC OF NUCLEAR POWER

\*82 SHRI SANDA NARARANA-  
PPA Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state-

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided that the nuclear power in India should be based on thorium instead of uranium, and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) It is the aim of the Government to base the long range atomic power programme in India on thorium as soon as practicable.

(b) India has vast thorium reserves as compared to limited uranium resources.

#### LANGUAGE OF JOURNAL 'YOJNA'

\*83. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the languages in which the Planning Commission's journal 'Yojna' is being published at present; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to publish it in various regional languages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yojana is published at present in Hindi, English, Bengali, Tamil, Assamese, Malayalam and Marathi.

(b) It is proposed to bring out the other language editions in a phased manner.

#### REGIONALISATION OF STAFF OF ALL INDIA RADIO

\*84. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have under consideration proposals for regionalization of the staff of the All India Radio;

(b) if so the details of the proposals; and

(c) the period by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b): Certain pro-

posals are under examination for introducing administrative changes for decentralising the organizational set up of All India Radio.

(c) The implementation of the proposal involves detailed consultation with various authorities. As such, it is not possible at this stage to indicate when the proposal will be implemented.

#### AERO SPACE INDUSTRY

\*85. SHRI SANT KUMAR RAHA: Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to achieve self reliance in the Aero Space Industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) In this, as in other fields, Government have constantly under consideration the need to achieve maximum self-reliance.

(b) and (c) The steps being taken by Government in order to achieve self-reliance in the aero space industry are contained in the Annual Reports of the Ministry of Defence and the Department of Atomic Energy for 1971-1972.

#### REMOVAL OF BAN ON PLEBISCITE FRONT

\*86. SHRI GANESHI LAL CHAUDHURY:  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE:  
SHRI BANARSI DAS:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have removed the ban on the Plebiscite Front of Kashmir; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?