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Rajya Sabha Q&A on India's Emergence as a Nuclear Power

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Summary:

Transcript of questions and answers between members of the Rajya Sabha and the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Surendra Pal Singh, on U.N. the UN report on potential nuclear threats.

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Manganese Mines, has since been received by Government ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes.

(b) The Committee has, by majority recommended an all-inclusive minimum wage of Rs. 3.25 per day for an unskilled worker. The workers; representatives on the Committee have dissented with this recommendation. The recommendations of the Committee are being processed further.

SUPPLY OF CEMENT TO ASSAM

1341. SHRI GOLAP BARBORA : Will the Minister of SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that because of floods and the Bangla Desh's war of Independence supply of cement to Assam during 1971 was quite negligible;

(b) whether as a result of that a serious crisis of cement is going on in that State; and

(c) if so, what arrangements have been made by Government to rush cement to Assam to meet the crisis and also to neutralise the backlog of last year ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY (SHRI D.R. CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) it is not a fact that the supply of cement to Assam during the year 1971 was quite negligible. As against 2.62 lakh tonnes supplied to the State of Assam in 1970, 2.52 lakh tonnes were supplied in 1971, which represented a shortfall of only 4% as compared to the previous year.

(c) The main reasons for the shortfall in supply of cement to Assam during 1971 were the deterioration of law and order situation in West Bengal, natural calamities such as floods and cyclones, movement of foodgrains required for feeding the huge influx of refugees from Bangla Desh and the closure of Japla Cement Factory in Bihar. However, in order to ensure

continuous flow of the supplies of cement to Assam, the following steps have already been taken :—

- (i) Distantly situated factories have been permitted to move supplies, if necessary, over longer routes at higher freight.
- (ii) Transport of cement by rail-cum-road and by road has been liberalized.
- (iii) For transport of cement to destinations beyond 100 kms. producers are reimbursable upto 125% of the corresponding rail freight.
- (iv) Railways have been requested to maximise availability of wagons to the factories engaged in transporting cement to Assam.
- (v) The Regional Cement Officer, Calcutta, has addressed the cement factories to accelerate and improve upon despatches of cement to Assam.

As a cumulative effect of these measures, 1.55 lakh tonnes of cement were despatched to Assam during the period from 1st January, 1972 to 31st July, 1972.

INDIA EMERGING AS NUCLEAR POWER

1342. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that in a recent report prepared by the U.N. Association of U.S. and the Soviet Union, India and Israel have been singled out as a potential nuclear threat to their neighbours ; and

(b) if so, whether Government have obtained the text of the report ; and if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) Government have seen the reports of the UN Association of the USA and of the Association for UN in the USSR which are

both unofficial bodies. In the report of the UN Association of the USA, particular mention has been made of India and Israel, together with six other States, as possessing the fissionable material and technology needed to manufacture nuclear weapons if they decide to do so. The report of the U.N. Association of U.S.S.R. mentions only Israel. It does not specifically mention India.

Government of India have repeatedly declared their policy of not manufacturing nuclear weapons and of using nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes.

FOREIGN NATIONALS SERVING IN INDIA

1343. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) how many foreign nationals, country-wise, are at present stationed in India with diplomatic missions ; and

(b) whether there has been any reduction in their number during the last three years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) :

(a) A country-wise list indicating the number of foreign nationals employed by the diplomatic missions is attached herewith.

(b) There has been some reduction in their number during the last three years.

LIST

Name of the country	Number of foreign nationals employed in the Diplomatic Missions
(1)	(2)
1. Afghanistan	8
2. Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria	3
3. Arab Republic of Egypt	22
4. Argentina	2
5. Australia	23
6. Austria	7
7. People's Republic of Bangladesh	31

(1)	(2)
8. Belgium	7
9. Bhutan	12
10. Brazil	3
11. Britain	158
12. People's Republic of Bulgaria	19
13. Union of Burma	17
14. Cambodia	4
15. Canada	40
16. Republic of Sri Lanka	14
17. Chile	2
18. People's Republic of China	24
19. Colombia	2
20. Republic of Cuba	3
21. Czechoslovak Socialist Republic	33
22. Denmark	7
23. Ethiopia	3
24. Finland	6
25. France	38
26. Germany Federal Republic	46
27. Ghana	7
28. Greece	3
29. Holy See (Apostolic Nunciature)	3
30. Hungarian People's Republic	23
31. Republic of Indonesia	21
32. Iran	19
33. Republic of Iraq	10
34. Ireland	2
35. Italy	16
36. Japan	31
37. Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan	2
38. Republic of Kenya	7
39. State of Kuwait	4
40. Laos	2
41. Lebanon	3
42. Malaysia	13
43. Mauritius	5
44. Mexico	2
45. Mongolian People's Republic	5
46. Morocco	7
47. Nepal	12
48. Netherlands	14
49. New Zealand	9
50. Federal Republic of Nigeria	5
51. Norway	6
52. Oman—Sultanate of	3
53. Peru	3
54. Philippines	10
55. Polish People's Republic	26
56. Socialist Republic of Rumania	22
57. Saudi Arabia	6
58. Singapore	5
59. Spain	5