

March 12, 1970
**Rajya Sabha Q&A on the Proposal of a Nuclear
Program Cost Study**

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Summary:

Transcript of questions and answers between members of Rajya Sabha and the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, on whether or not to create a cost study of the Indian nuclear program. Gandhi does not believe it is a necessity.

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THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

I.A.F. PLANES FOR P.M.

1075. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the system of booking of I.A.F. planes for the use of the Prime Minister and the Home Minister;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs flew to Madras in August 1969 in an I.A.F. plane booked in the name of the Prime Minister;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Prime Minister's Secretary, Shri Kapoor, flew in an I.A.F. plane to Lucknow on the 10th February 1970 which was booked for the Prime Minister; and

(d) what steps are being taken to see that there is no such misuse of I.A.F. planes?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) Request is received through the personal staff of the Prime Minister and the Home Minister and a plane is made available from the Air Force Communications Squadron.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

1076. SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has got any invitation to attend the Islamic Foreign Ministers' conference to be held in March, 1970;

(b) if so, what is the attitude of the Government of India to this Conference;

(c) whether the Government of India have received information that U. A. R. and some Arab countries in-

formally sounded that India may get an invitation; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

COST STUDY OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

1077. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN:

SHRI S. SIVAPRAKASAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to have cost study of the nuclear weapons in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SALE OF INDIAN PROPERTY BY PAKISTAN

1078. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN:

SHRI S. SIVAPRAKASAM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any fresh attempt by Pakistan to sell the properties of India which they illegally seized during the aggression in 1965; and

(b) if so, what steps the Government of India have taken to stop the attempt?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have seen some tender notices issued for sale of Indian properties seized by them during the conflict of 1965.

(b) Several protests have been lodged urging the Government of Pakistan to stop immediately the proposed sale