

have approached the Union Government for supply of gas to Utran and AEC Power Stations in that State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). AEC Vatwa and Uttaran power stations are being supplied 0.40 MMSCMD and 0.25 MMSCMD of natural gas respectively. Additional 0.45 MMSCMD is to be supplied to Uttaran power station after laying of pipeline and development of the Gandhar field in stages.

Bodo Phobiem

151. **SHRI BIRSINGHA MAHATO:**
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the three-member expert Committee set up by the Government in September, 1990 to go in depth into the Bodo problem in Assam has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the salient features of the report; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Expert Committee has recommended a mechanism for devolution of legislative, administrative, judicial and financial powers in two distinct identified sectors having concentration of Plains Tribals to the

North of river Brahmaputra in Assam. A three-tier structure at the village, group of villages, and apex levels for this purpose has been recommended for each sector. The constitution of a Legislative Council for the State of Assam has also been recommended.

(c) The All Bodo Students' Union (ABSU) and the Bodo Peoples' Action Committee (BPAC) have rejected the recommendations of the Expert Committee. In view of this, discussions have been held at State and the Central Government levels to find an amicable and acceptable solution to the problem of Plains Tribals through negotiations with the concerned parties. These efforts are continuing.

[Translation]

Slums and Urban Villages of Delhi

152. **SHRI S.N. VEKARIA:**
SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken by the Government for providing essential civic amenities in the slum areas and urban villages of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress of development work done so far?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Slum Improvement and Clearance Scheme of Delhi Administration (now the Government of National Capital Territory) slum tenements have been constructed and environmental improvement

scheme for the provision of basic amenities has been implemented in the notified slum areas. Structural repairs and renovation of Katras in the walled city of Delhi are being carried out. The notified urban villages are developed by the provision of water supply, sewerage, drainage, roads, electrification, parks etc. through funds made available to Municipal Corporation of Delhi and New Delhi Municipal Committee.

(c) Under the Slum Improvement and Clearance Scheme of Delhi Administration, about 15 lakhs slum dwellers are reported to have been benefitted till the end of March, 1992 while 1132 katras were repaired over the same period. The expenditure incurred by Municipal Corporation of Delhi on the development of urban villages is reported to be Rs. 2324 lakhs upto the end of March 1992.

Counter Magnate City Scheme

153. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved any scheme for development of cities under the Counter Magnate City Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the allocation made during 1991-92, city-wise.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) and (b). 5 Towns have been selected by National Capital Region Planning Board as counter magnets as a part of the Eight Plan strategy. They are:-

(i) Kota (Rajasthan)

(ii) Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh)

(iii) Bareilly (Uttar Pradesh)

(iv) Patiala (Punjab) and

(v). Hissar (Haryana)

(c) So far Rs. 1.00 Crore each have been disbursed as loan in March, 1992 by National Capital Region Planning Board to the Government of Punjab and Madhya Pradesh for the development of counter magnet cities of Patiala and Gwalior.

[English]

Natural Gas

154. DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the increasingly emanating natural gas is being used for various purposes in the country;

(b) to what extent the natural gas can replace coal or oil in generating required energy for the industries;

(c) the proportion of unutilised gas to that of utilised gas; and

(d) the steps contemplated to maximise the use of gas so generated?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes it is.

(b) It is estimated that by 1996-97, approximately 83 MMSCMD of gas would be utilised in the country, which is energy equivalent to about 27 million tonnes of oil per annum.

(c) and (d). Only a small proportion of associated gas which is produced along with