

to be sent to the South through Paradip Port and whether the existing facilities are adequate at that Port or not. If not, is he proposing to provide the necessary facilities there? It is a fact that huge amount of coal is required to be sent to the South from Orissa for a number of thermal power plants there?

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** In view of the infrastructure already available at Paradip Port and also the large scale expansion of port facilities for handling thermal coal being planned there, a view was taken that a second outlet may not be necessary which the Orissa Government had asked for. But I would like to inform the House about one point. It is estimated that Paradip Port can be used for handling up to about 30 to 35 million tonnes of thermal coal. The Central Electricity Authority has projected that by 2000 AD, the export from Talcher Coal Fields for coastal thermal power station in South India would go up to 32 million tonnes and may even increase beyond 32 million tonnes. So, right up to 35 million tonnes, I have got the facilities.

#### **Third Aircraft Carrier for Navy**

\*105. **PROF. K. V. THOMAS :** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken for the construction of the Third Aircraft Carrier for the Indian Navy ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) :** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**PROF. K. V. THOMAS :** Sir, in the Eighth Lok Sabha, when a similar question was asked in this House, the then Defence Minister, Shri. K. C. Pant gave an answer that it was under consideration of the Government of India to have a third aircraft carrier and the present two aircraft carriers, particularly the INS Vikrant, are in an obsolete stage. I would like to know whether the Government is considering the need to acquire a third aircraft carrier for the Indian Navy, keeping the security environment in view.

**SHRI SHARAD PAWAR :** Because of the high cost of the aircraft carrier, we are not in a position to afford a third aircraft carrier. We have taken a conscious decision to continue to use the two aircraft carriers only and that is sufficient at this stage.

**AN HON. MEMBER :** Sir, Army personnel were demanding one rank one pay .. (*Interruptions*)

**MR. SPEAKER :** This question pertains to aircraft carriers. Your supplementary is not relevant. Please sit down.

#### **Use of Electronic Voting Machines**

\*107. **SHRI LAL K. ADVANI :**  
**SHRI ATAL BIHARI**  
**VAJPAYEE :**

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether suggestions for use of electronic machines in elections have

been received to eliminate the cost of ballot boxes, ballot-papers, malpractices during counting and reduction of cost of election etc.;

(b) the action taken by the Government thereon and the action plan, if any, prepared by the Government in this regard;

(c) the number of electronic voting machines already acquired by the Election Commission and the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(d) how many times these machines have been used by the Commission so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGAIAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Section 61A has been inserted in the Representation of the People Act, 1951, so as to empower the Commission to use electronic voting machines in such constituency or constituencies as it may, having regard to the circumstances of each case, specify. This section came into force w.e.f. 15-3-1989.

(c) 1.5 lakh electronic voting machines at a cost of about Rs. 75 crores were acquired by the Election Commission by 31-3-90. 444 machines were earlier acquired by the Election Commission at a cost of around rupees Twenty five lakhs during the period 1982—84.

(d) Electronic voting machines were tried for the first time in 50 polling stations of Parur Assembly constituency in Kerala in May, 1982 and subsequently in 10 more constituencies in different States as per details given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House.

### STATEMENT

Constituencies where Electronic Voting Machines were Introduced in the Year 1982-83

Name of the State	Nature of Election	No. & Name of Constituency where Voting Machines were used	Month & Year of Election	Number of Machines used
1. Kerala	General	70—Parur A.C.	May., 1982	50
2. Nagaland	Do.	10—Northern Angami A.C.	Nov., 1982	12
3. Andhra Pradesh	Do.	191—Shad'nagar (SC) A.C.	Jan., 1983	126
4. Karnataka	Do.	84—Shanthinagar (SC) A.C.	Jan., 1983	75*
5. Tripura	Do.	9—Banamalipur A.C.	Jan., 1983	12*
6. Delhi	Do.	1—Sarojini Nagar M.C.	Feb., 1983	26*
7. Delhi	Do.	3—Gole Market (SC) M.C.	Feb., 1983	27*
8. Delhi	Do.	5—Delhi Cantt. M.C.	Feb., 1983	25*
9. Arunachal Pradesh	Bve election	22—Roing A.C.	April, 1983	25
10. Bihar	Do.	199—Chandi A.C.	June., 1983	159
11. Tripura	Do.	18—Charilam A.C.	Nov., 1983	19*

A.C.—ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCY, M.C.—METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

\*One common machine was used in two polling station located in the same premises.