

1993-94 and replacing it by a soft loan scheme. However, the target was exceeded again in 1995-96 under the new scheme.

(d) The expenditure on Solar Energy programme in 1995-96 was Rs. 3456 lakhs against Rs. 2719 lakhs in 1994-95, an increase of 27 percent. A further increase in outlay is proposed in 1996-97 and also during Ninth Plan, based on requirements of the implementing agencies, in the States.

STATEMENT

Financial Assistance Provided to Various States and UTs under Solar Energy Programme

S No.	States/UTs	(Rs. in lakhs)		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20.52	21.36	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	73.00	16.11	13.50
3.	Assam	22.97	0.30	5.21
4.	Bihar	56.00	-	74.47
5.	Goa	-	0.97	0.50
6.	Gujarat	2.00	22.31	38.63
7.	Haryana	24.47	53.00	60.08
8.	Himachal Pradesh	37.31	79.72	153.10
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	31.75	43.15	173.26
10.	Karnataka	46.88	1.03	-
11.	Kerala	67.70	115.54	175.20
12.	Madhya Pradesh	80.09	63.80	2.90
13.	Maharashtra	103.28	0.14	6.06
14.	Manipur	5.00	1.44	5.00
15.	Meghalaya	16.58	12.32	10.65
16.	Mizoram	5.70	-	1.23
17.	Nagaland	-	-	1.52
18.	Orissa	6.70	13.10	34.41
19.	Punjab	6.65	6.10	0.12
20.	Rajasthan	97.61	67.08	4.40
21.	Sikkim	3.70	-	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	39.60	55.70	0.50
23.	Tripura	7.40	-	64.01
24.	Uttar Pradesh	506.61	324.50	572.76
25.	West Bengal	57.75	21.43	116.02
26.	A & N Islands	-	0.38	-
27.	Chandigarh	-	0.69	-
28.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	-	-	-
29.	Daman & Diu	-	-	-
30.	Delhi	74.35	55.40	32.73
31.	Lakshdweep	-	-	-
32.	Pondicherry	-	0.18	-

Support Price of Copra

35. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have decided to revise the support price of Copra,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the date on which the price of copra was last revised;

(e) whether there is demand from the Kerala coconut growers for and upward revision of support price of copra; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (f). The Government decided on 1st Feb, 1996 to continue the procurement of copra during 1996 season at the Minimum Support Prices fixed for 1995 season i.e. Rs. 2725 per quintal for ball copra (FAQ) and Rs. 2500 per quintal for milling copra (FAQ). In reply to a Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 141 on 11th March 1996, the then Minister of State for Agriculture assured the House that the issue of the revision of the Minimum Support Prices for copra would be discussed with the representative of the Kerala Government. Subsequently due to the Lok Sabha Election and the change in the Government at the Centre as well as in Kerala, the discussion could not be held. This will be held soon.

Expert Committee

36. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up any Expert Committee to go deeply into the question of Centre-State relations in all its aspects,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to set up any such Committee; and

(d) the present status of the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (d). The recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission are presently under consideration of the Sub-Committee of the Inter-State Council consequent upon a decision taken in the first meeting of the Inter-State Council held in October, 1990. The Sub-Committee has so far met

six times and considered 190 out of 247 recommendation. The status of these recommendations is as follows:-

Number of Recommendations	
(i) Accepted with/without modifications	- 155
(ii) Not accepted	- 24
(iii) On which no consensus has been reached	- 11
(iv) Partially considered	- 1
(v) Yet to be finalised	- 56
247	

The recommendations at (iv) and (v) above totalling 57 relate to emergency provisions, Union-State relations in the sphere of education and financial relations.

Keeping in view the above position, a view will be taken regarding the appointment of a High Level Committee to go into certain aspects of the Centre-State Relations.

Expenditure in Power Generation

37 SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated per megawatt expenditure involved in the generation of power at fixed capacity in a new atomic power plant,

(b) the per megawatt estimated cost of power transmission; and

(c) the per megawatt investment at the consumption point?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The basic capital cost of a new Nuclear Power Project consisting of 2 units of 220 MWe capacity each is estimated to be around Rs. 4.5 crores/MWe at 1996 constant price level. An additional element of 'Interest During Construction' (IDC) will also be required to be met which will depend on the debt/equity ratio, interest rate on debt, gestation period etc. Based on a debt/equity ratio of 1.1 and interest rate of 16% p.a. and gestation period of about 8 years, the IDC Component is estimated to be around 30% of the basic capital cost.

(b) and (c). The cost of power transmission depends on the length of transmission lines, voltage energy transferred through these lines and varies widely from place to place. Investment at the consumption point also varies considerably

depending on the concentration and type of load and different distribution voltage supply systems. The cost of transmission of power and the additional investment to the point of consumption from an atomic power plants are, however, no different from a thermal or hydel station.

Ban on Endosulfan

38. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the acute toxic effect of Endosulfan on fish and the other aquatic life and human beings and its role as the leading cause of pesticide poisoning;

(b) whether its use has been banned/restricted in some countries; and

(c) if so, the Government's reaction to the use of this hazardous pesticide in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) All pesticides including Endosulfan being toxic in nature have toxic effects on fish, other aquatic life and human beings. However, safe and judicious use of Endosulfan as per the recommended practices may not be the cause of pesticide poisoning.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government had constituted an Expert Committee in 1989 to review the use of 14 Pesticides including Endosulfan. After considering the recommendations of the Committee it was decided to continue its use. Reviewing the use of pesticides is a continuous process and it is proposed to refer this product for further review.

Raw Jute

39. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Jute Corporation of India has instructed to intervene in the Raw Jute market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R. L. JALAPPA) : (a) and (c). The Jute Corporation of India has not been instructed to undertake price support operations because the market prices of raw jute have been ruling well above the Minimum Support Price and the need for price support intervention has not arisen. Meanwhile, raw jute prices are being constantly monitored.

(b) Does not arise.