

datory in industries to cover up power shortage;

(b) whether any final decision has been taken; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, in order to encourage industries and other to utilise solar energy so that electricity or fuels could be saved, Govt. is providing various fiscal and financial incentives. Industries can avail of soft loan facilities provided by Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) and also make use of incentives provided by Govt. in the form of accelerated depreciation allowance, exemption from sales tax & excise duty etc. and subsidy wherever applicable for installation of solar energy devices.

Mini Hydel Projects

7259. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provide financial assistance for the schemes of mini hydel projects undertaken by the State Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of mini hydel projects taken up and completed in West Bengal during the last three years alongwith their capacity and the amount involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under the capital subsidy scheme, the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources provides subsidy for various types of projects, upto 3 MW capacity, whether grid or non-grid, upto 50% of fixed capital cost on E&M equipment and civil works. Projects eligible under IREDA/WB financing or those requiring international competitive bidding or tied supplies are not eligible under the MNES subsidy scheme. The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has so far sanctioned 74 projects in 13 States aggregation to 80 MW capacity.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No Small Hydro Power Project has been taken up so far under the above scheme in the State of West Bengal.

Wind Energy

7260. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received some complaints from the private sector regarding lack of a clear policy initiative on wind energy;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether the private sector has been demanding higher price of power generated from wind energy from State Electricity Boards; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL