

Year 1996-97:

1. Chandil (2x4)	H	8.00	13.08
2. Kahalgaon U-3 (Bihar/NTPC)	T	210.00	
3. North Koel HEP (2x12)H		24.00	7.84
		242.00	

Bridges in Gujarat

1142. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the bridges proposed to be constructed on National Highways in Gujarat during 1994-95;

(b) the bridges under construction at present in the State; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on repair of bridges on National Highways during the last three years in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY): (a) During 1994-95, 16 bridges had been proposed for widening/construction etc. in the Gujarat State.

(b) Seventy-three.

(c) An amount of Rs. 1.44 crores has been released.

[English]

Fruits Processing Industries

1143. SHRI V. SOBĤANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the facilities being extended by Government to encourage those entrepreneurs, who are running fruit processing industries as cottage industries;

(b) whether certain proposals to make further increase in the same are under Government's consideration; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c). Technical assistance and guidance is extended by Officers of the Directorate of Fruits & Vegetables under this Ministry to the small fruit & vegetable processors including those operating in the cottage scale. Government also is assisting setting up of Food Processing Training Centres in which training is given to the rural entrepreneurs in appropriate technologies for processing of food products including fruits & vegetable products so as

to enable and encourage them to set up and/or run small and cottage units in a scientific manner. During the 8th Plan 250 such Centres are proposed to be assisted. These Centres will help guiding the existing entrepreneurs. Under the Plan Schemes of the Ministry, assistance are also available for upgrading/modernisation of existing food units and for marketing of products of small units. Financial assistance are also available for setting up of small units under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana and other schemes of the Government.

Shortage of Power

1144. SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power sector is facing crisis as not more than 16,000 MW is likely to be added during the Eighth Five Year Plan and no advance action plan for the Ninth Plan has so far been prepared; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to review the power position as per the suggestion made by the national working group on power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) As per the estimate of the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), the likely capacity addition during the 8th Plan is 20729.7 MW. Advance action on schemes likely to give benefit during the 9th Plan has been initiated.

(b) National Working Group on Power have raised certain issues on the private power policy. These have been clarified in a publication brought out by the Ministry of Power - "The Legal and Policy Framework of Private Power Development - Facts and clarifications", which was widely circulated, including among the Hon'ble Members of Parliament.

[Translation]

Foreign Visits of Chief Ministers

1145. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the official foreign tours of Chief Ministers/Ministers of different States during each of the last three years; and

(b) the details of the agreements signed with foreign countries by them during these visits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.