

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b). The existing formula regarding distribution of power to the States from the Central Power Projects is working satisfactorily and as such, at present, it is not envisaged to review the existing formula.

(c) and (d). Rajasthan has been adequately compensated for the loss of power due to closure of both the units of Rajasthan Atomic Power Project. The measures taken by the Government are as under:

- (i) 50% of unallocated (15%) of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) Power Stations in the Northern Region except Badarpur and Dadri Thermal Power Projects has been allocated to Rajasthan.
- (ii) 1/3 of generation from Anta Gas Power Station of NTPC has been allocated to Rajasthan with effect from October, 1993.
- (iii) 50% Uttar Pradesh's share in Dadri Gas Power has been allocated to Rajasthan with effect from 16.3.1995.

Changes in Rural and Development Schemes

1175. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:

SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to make major changes in the rural and employment schemes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI HARJIBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b). Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) are two major Rural Development Programmes of the Government of India to provide self employment and wage employment opportunities to the rural poor. Based on the interaction with the State Authorities and field functionaries, certain improvements have been effected in these programmes.

For improving and strengthening the IRDP Programme, a Committee was constituted by RBI under the Chairmanship of Shri D.R. Mehta in September, 1990. This Committee has made certain recommendations for

effecting improvements in the implementation of IRDP. The important recommendations relate to (i) greater involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions in the implementation of IRDP; (ii) Selection of families below the poverty line for assistance under IRDP should be from those with skills, aptitude/experience; (iii) switch over from present front-end subsidy to back-end subsidy; (iv) measures for better recovery of IRDP loan etc; and (v) Increase in the level of per family assistance by providing larger credit and higher subsidy.

Similarly, certain improvements have also been effected in the implementation of JRY; Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) and Rural Housing Scheme. It is proposed to continue the JRY-I stream of the existing lines ~~except~~ that IAY and MWS will not form part of the JRY-I stream. The II-stream of JRY which is being implemented in 120 backward districts in different States of the Country have more or less similar objectives as those of EAS. As such II-stream of JRY is proposed to be merged with the EAS and all the blocks falling in the II-stream of JRY are proposed to be covered under EAS. The III-stream of JRY is unique and different from other employment schemes as its thrust is on the innovatives that result in sustained employment for the rural poor. In view of the special characteristics of the III-stream of JRY, it is proposed to continue this scheme as an independent scheme. It is also proposed that IAY and MWS would be distinct scheme from JRY and specific funds would be earmarked for these two schemes.

Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment is also implementing the Rural Housing Scheme. Under this scheme launched during 1993-94, funds are provided to the State Governments to the extent of 50 per cent of total allocation made by them for Rural Housing Scheme. In view of the greater emphasis being laid by the Government on IAY during the current year and objective of Rural Housing Scheme and IAY is for providing assistance for the construction of houses to the people below poverty line, it is proposed to merge Rural Housing Scheme with IAY and the funds available under Rural Housing Scheme would be used under IAY and would be implemented broadly as per the existing guidelines of IAY.

Decentralisation of Rural Development Schemes

1176. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH:

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state: