

Expenditure on telephone bills in Akashvani Hyderabad

6901. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the amount paid on telephone bills for the telephones in Regional News Unit in Akashvani, Hyderabad Kendra during November and December, 1988 and the figures relating to the corresponding months in the year 1987; and

(b) the reasons for the increase, if any, in the telephone bills during November and December, 1988 and the corrective action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) The amount paid on telephone bills including office and residential telephones in the Regional News Unit in All India Radio, Hyderabad during November and December, 1988 was Rs. 23,938/-, while the expenditure during the corresponding months of November and December, 1987 was Rs. 27,553/-.

(b) There is no increase in the expenditure and as such question of taking corrective action does not arise.

Power Project in Silent Valley, Kerala

6902. SHRI VAKKOMPURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for a power project in the Silent Valley in Palghat district, Kerala was abandoned in 1982 due to ecological considerations;

(b) if so, whether Kerala Government

has recently sent any proposal to revive the project; and

(c) if so, the response of Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Proposal to take over Punalur Paper Mills, Kerala

6903. PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd., has any proposal to take over the Punalur Paper Mills, Kerala; and

(b) whether Kerala Government has sent any recommendations in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

Utilisation of Natural Gas

6904. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to create more facilities for utilising the natural gas available in the country;

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

(c) whether Government have sought foreign assistance to implement the above plan; and