

and the resultant loss in production are not readily available. It is understood that Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking has supplied additional energy to Haryana State Electricity Board to the extent of 19,11.6 and 39 M. units during the months of August, September and October, 1972, respectively.

#### **Effect of Power Shortage on Production in West Bengal**

424. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether industrial productions has been seriously affected in West Bengal due to power crisis; and

(b) if so, the extent of such shortfall of industrial production?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). Power shortage conditions have prevailed in West Bengal during the last one year. The extent and duration of the shortage from November, 1971 to August, 1972 has been estimated at around 10 per cent during peak hours with frequent load shedding. The details of loss of production are not readily available with the State Government.

#### **Request from Madhya Pradesh Government to Legalise Satta Gambling**

425. SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Madhya Pradesh have requested the Central Government to legalise Satta Gambling so that licences could be given for Satta dens in the State; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Central Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Betting and Gambling is a State subject and the State Government is competent to legislate on the subject. However, as the proposal involves an important point of public policy, the matter is under the examination of the Central Government.

#### **Measures to check Defections from Political Parties**

426. SHRI MAHA DEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:  
SHRI HUKAM CHAND KACHWAI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government of India to check defections from one political party to another;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) the number of defections made in Vidhan Sabhas and Parliament since 1968?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) and (b). Attention is invited to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 578 dated 2nd August, 1972. It is intended that necessary legislation in this behalf will be introduced during the current session.

(c) In their report, the Committee of Defections had given, for the period March 1967 to February, 1968, 438 as the number of defections in the State Legislative Assemblies and the Lok Sabha. According to the information available with the Government, during the period February, 1968, to December, 1970, there were 806 such defections in the State Legislative Assemblies and 53 in the Lok Sabha. Information for the years 1971 and 1972 (upto the end of October, 1972) is being compiled.