

Original Composition	Present Composition
6. Shri S. Rajagopalan, D.D.G. (PHE), Dte. G.H.S. (Member)	Shri S. Rajagopalan Deputy Director General (PHE) Dte. G.H.S. Member-Secretary.
7. Shri B. S. Srikantiah, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Health. Member-Secretary.	

U.S. Aid

1866. Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Kishen Pattanayak:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any report from U.S. Agency for International Development in which stress has been laid on the consolidation and fuller utilisation of the existing industrial capacity expansion; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri): (a) A preliminary study has been made in the U.S. Agency for International Development on the effects of import liberalisation on increased utilisation of industrial capacity in India.

(b) This is an internal study made by the A.I.D. and Government has no specific views to express thereon.

Electricity Supply to Rural Areas

1867. Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Kishen Pattanayak:
Shri Jagdev Singh Siddhanti:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any analysis of the utilisation of the electricity supplied to rural areas;

(b) how much of the total electricity supplied is used for domestic lighting etc. in towns, kasbas and villages with a population of 2000 or less, how

much for irrigation; how much for small and cottage industries (in percentage and absolutely); and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to extend electricity to newer rural areas and to stimulate their use for the purposes of irrigation and small and cottage industries?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed): (a) and (b). Most of the State Electricity Boards do not maintain separate data in respect of electricity consumed in localities with a population of 2,000 and less. A statement showing the electricity sales in the rural areas as far as available with the various State Electricity Boards is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5737/66].

(c) As a measure of Central Assistance loans are being given for rural electrification at 5½ per cent., in respect of which only interest is payable during the first five years and thereafter principal plus interest are payable in 20 annual equated instalments.

2. To ensure active participation of rural population with electrification, a scheme of establishing rural electricity Co-operatives on an experimental measure is under consideration. Various State Electricity Boards have been requested to earmark certain areas for the purpose.

3. In accordance with the recommendations of the conference of Chairmen of Electricity Boards held in November, 1965, State Governments/Electricity Boards have been requested to take the following steps with a view

to encouraging agriculturists to use electricity for pumping purposes:

(i) Some of the Boards take a long time in sanctioning electricity connections for agricultural uses. A time limit should be set by the Boards for giving such connections so that the agriculturists can get the benefit of pumping in the cultivation season;

(ii) during the period when there is no water in the well or during rainy season when water from the well is not required for irrigation purposes, minimum consumption guarantee may not be insisted upon from the agricultural consumers;

(iii) in certain States, 'No objection' certificate has to be obtained by agricultural consumers from a number of authorities before they are able to get electricity connections. Ways and means of cutting down these delays to eliminate undue hardship to the agricultural consumers should be considered;

(iv) no electricity duty should be levied on consumption of electricity for agricultural uses.

4. With a view to securing a more uniform pattern, the following simplifications and liberalisation of terms and conditions for the supply of electricity to agricultural consumers have been recommended for consideration of the States:

(i) Minimum consumption guarantee may be fixed at a maximum rate of Rs. 35 per connected horse power per annum;

(ii) The cost of distribution lines should not be charged to the agricultural consumers at all;

(iii) the cost of the service lines beyond 100 ft. may be recovered by the Board from the agricultural consumers instead of lump sum on 60 monthly instalments without interest;

(iv) security deposit equivalent to two months' average consumption may be accepted as the standard pattern.

5. In order to enable the average agriculturist to take to greater use of electricity for irrigation purposes, it has been decided to subsidise agricultural rates wherever it is more than 12 paise per unit so that the agriculturists do not have to pay more than this rate and the Boards are also not incur a loss.

6. The pattern of Central Assistance for subsidising the capital cost of pump sets have also been further liberalised to ensure that all private or co-operative lift irrigation schemes such as pump sets, tubewells, filter points, etc. will be eligible for subsidy, ranging from 25 per cent to 50 per cent the subsidy being shared equally between the Centre and the States.

Multi-Storeyed Garage in New Delhi

1868. Shri Yashpal Singh:

Shri Bagri:

Shri Vishram Prasad:

Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:

Shri Kishen Pattnayak:

Shri Utiya:

Will the Minister of Health and Family Planning be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2141 on the 9th December, 1965 regarding the multi-storeyed garage in New Delhi and state the progress made in this regard and when it is likely to be ready?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning (Dr. Sushila Nayar): The plans are ready and the Delhi Administration to whom a request for allotment of funds was made by the New Delhi Municipal Committee are considering the matter.