

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b). States have been advised that District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) should function under the overall supervision, control and guidance of Zilla Parishads. Chairman of Zilla Parishad would be ex-officio Chairman of the Governing Body of DRDA and would preside over its Meetings. Chief Executive Officer of Zilla parishad would be Member Secretary of the Governing Body of the DRDA. District Collectors/DMs/Deputy Commissioners are to be designated as Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director of Zilla Parishad and will preside over the Meetings of the Executive Committee of the DRDA. Provision has also been made for inclusion of the Ex. MPs/MLAs/Member of minority community in the Governing Body of the DRDAs

[Translation]

Land Reclamation

810 SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the unit-wise total amount released to the offices of the Land Reclamation Departments located in Fatehpur and Banda Districts of Uttar Pradesh during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) the item-wise details thereof;

(c) whether the land-reclamation work has been got done against the prescribed norms.

(d) if so, the reasons therefor.

(e) whether complaints letters have been received from the district Magistrate Fatehpur and Banda.

(f) if so, the action taken thereon, and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (g) The required information will be laid on Table of the House

Generation of Electricity through Non-Conventional Energy Sources

4811 SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item under the caption "Desh Bhar Mein Bijli Sankat Gehrane Ka Andesha" Published in 'Dainik Jagran' (New Delhi Edition) dated June 24, 1996.

(b) whether the Government keeping in view the prevailing power crisis propose to generate electricity

through non-conventional energy sources i.e. through solar energy;

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in the near future to ensure the solar energy easily accessible to all and make available its equipment to the public at the lowest price;

(d) the total expenditure proposed to be incurred on this scheme and the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR S VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Keeping in view the overall energy needs and resources in the country, the Government has been promoting the generation of electricity for both grid supply and for decentralised use. Over 900 MW of power generating capacity based on wind energy, small hydro power and biomass has already been installed in the country. Over 20 MW of decentralised systems using solar photovoltaic and biomass energy sources have also been installed. Proposals for expanding these activities during the 9th Five Year Plan are being developed. Among other measures planned are :

1. Wider use of solar hot water systems to reduce the load on conventional power supply.
2. Soft loan schemes for financing the projects of solar hot water systems
3. Large scale use of solar pumps and solar lighting systems in order to improve the energy supply in rural areas
4. Establishment of showrooms dedicated to renewable energy products to ensure easy accessibility of these products to the public

(d) An amount of Rs. 80 crores has been proposed for expenditure on various solar energy and grid power generation programme during 1996-97

(e) Does not arise

[English]

Power Project in Jammu and Kashmir

812 SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the hydel power projects identified in Jammu and Kashmir on the River Chenab with its capacity

(b) the projects taken up for execution-both in the State and Central sectors along with the amount spent on each such project,

(c) the total amount spent on the power sector during last three years by State Government in each