

order to save Taj from environmental pollution and for non-stop power supply;

(b) if so, whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government as to how the pollution will be checked by not providing regular power supply to the non-power supply area in the rural and urban areas under the Taj protected area where the power is generated through diesel engines and generators sets for irrigation, cottage and other purposes;

(b) whether this fact has also been brought to the notice of Supreme Court that uninterrupted power supply would not be provided in the entire area falling within the Taj protected area but will be provided on those areas where power distribution system is already there;

(d) if so, the details thereof and when the Supreme Court was informed in this regard; and

(e) the details regarding the affidavit filed in the Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. Not only transmission but distribution works as well in Taj Protection Area have been envisaged in the scheme presented with the affidavit in Supreme Court by U.P. State Electricity Board. A sum of Rs. 90 crores has also been allocated to the State Government for implementation of the transmission and distribution works in Taj Trapezium. At present, U.P. have also been allocated 10% out of unallocated (15%) of central sector generation Northern region.

(c) to (e). In the affidavit filed by UPSEB on 29.10.1996 in the Supreme Court of India, it has been stated that Planning Commission has agreed to allocate Rs. 90 crores for power sector transmission and distribution in order to implement the order of the Supreme Court for the protection of Taj Trapezium. The Court has also been informed that Agra and Ferozabad District have been exempted from emergency load shedding.

N.E.D.A.

3938. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether after setting up of the Alternative Energy Development Institute (NEDA) as a nodal agency in accordance with the National Policy in Uttar Pradesh, alternative energy has not become popular;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total amount allotted and subsidy provided so far for a alternative energy; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make this energy more popular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b). The Non-Conventional Energy Development Agency (NEDA), U.P. has been implementing various programmes and schemes to popularise the use of Non-Conventional Energy devices and systems. As a result of NEDA's efforts, non-conventional energy programmes have been extended to all the 68 districts of Uttar Pradesh. The programme-wise physical achievement of NEDA (U.P.) are given in Statement. Considerable awareness has been created for such systems and devices and the demand for them is continuously increasing.

(c) An amount of Rs. 107.00 crores has been provided through NEDA, so far out of which the subsidy provision has been Rs. 91.70 crores.

(d) Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has initiated a number of steps to popularise the use of Non-conventional energy throughout the country including in the State of Uttar Pradesh. These include provision of fiscal incentives such as 100% depreciation in the first year of installation of the project, exemption from excise duty and sales tax and concessional customs duty on the import of materials, components and equipments used in the Non-conventional Energy projects. In addition, the Government provides financial incentives such as interest-subsidy and capital subsidy from the Ministry and soft loans from the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA). The Ministry also provides financial support for opening show-rooms for the sale of non-conventional energy products and devices and for regular publicity through exhibitions, electronic and print media in the country including in Uttar Pradesh.

STATEMENT

Programme-wise physical achievements of Non-Conventional Energy Programmes in Uttar Pradesh

S.No.	Name of System	Unit	Physical Achievement
1	2	3	4
1.	Solar Water Heater	Lit./Day	18,91,200
2.	Solar Cooker	Nos.	38,052
3.	Domestic Light	Nos.	37,250
4.	Solar Lantern	Nos.	33,897
5.	Power Plant/Power Pack	Nos./KW	87/451
6.	Solar P.V. Pump	Nos.	14
7.	Solar Charging Station	Nos.	28
8.	Solar T.V.	Nos.	120
9.	Solar Still	Nos.	240
10.	Wind Pump	Nos.	471
11.	Wind Battery Charger	Nos.	235

1	2	3	4
12.	Community/Institutional Biogas	Nos./Cu.m.	104/7835
13.	Night soil based Biogas	Nos./Cu.m.	299/5263
14.	Biogas Engine	Nos.	97
15.	Improved Chulha	Nos.	6,52,000
16.	Solar Tape Recorder Panel	Nos.	3,950
17.	Improved Gharat	Nos.	114
18.	Micro Hydel Scheme	Nos./KW	17/1127

[English]

Roads in Pauri Garhwal

3939. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any funds have been earmarked for macadamisation of Sisaldi Rikhnikhil motor road and for construction of Rikhnikhil-Bayela Malla Bagar Khal motor road in Distt. Pauri Garhwal, U.P.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c). This Ministry does not earmark funds for macadamisation/construction of roads in district Pauri Garhwal, Uttar Pradesh, as this Ministry has no budget provision of funds for this purpose.

[Translation]

Industrial Training Centre

3940. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Training Centre set up in district Gumla in order to impart technical training to the workers of the proposed Koel-Karo Hydro Electric project has been lying closed for the past few years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which this training centre is likely to be re-started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c). The Industrial Training Centre was set up in District Gumla by the Bihar State Government. The National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) which was entrusted with the execution of Koel Karo Hydro-electric Project has not

been able to begin active work on the Project due to local resistance as well as paucity of funds. In the circumstances, there was no requirement of imparting any industrial training at this stage. The Training Centre could be re-started by the Bihar Government once the works on the Koel Karo Project are started.

[English]

District Rural Development Agencies

3941. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the construction and functioning of District Rural Development Agencies;

(b) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to dissolve the District Rural Development Agencies due to establishment of Distt panchayats which are mainly constituted for Rural Development of Districts;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) This Ministry has advised the State Government to reconstitute the DRDA's Governing Body as per Statement attached.

The DRDAs are overall incharge of planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the IRDP and other rural development programmes in the District. The main functions of the DRDAs are :

(i) To keep the District and Block Level agencies informed of the basic parameters and the requirements of the programmes and the tasks to be performed by all these agencies.

(ii) To coordinate and oversee the surveys, preparation of perspective plans and Annual Plan of the blocks and finally prepare a District Plan.

(iii) To monitor and evaluate the programme implementation by Government and non-Governmental agencies to ensure its effectiveness.

(iv) To secure inter-sectoral and inter-departmental coordination and cooperation.

(v) To give publicity to the achievements made under the programmes and disseminate knowledge and build up awareness about the programmes.

(vi) To send periodical returns to the State Government in the prescribed formats

(b) There is no proposal to dissolve the District Rural Development Agencies.