

(c) if not, the time by which the GOT is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The Report of Group on Telecommunications (GOT) is expected by the end of March, 1999.

[Translation]

Losses to SEBs

*94. SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE:
SHRI D.S. AHIRE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the State Electricity Boards in the country are in a very bad shape and reeling under debt-burden;

(b) if so, the liabilities on the State Electricity Boards as on date, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have tendered any advice and assistance to the State Governments to ameliorate the condition of their Electricity Boards;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether all the State Governments have set up regulatory commissions for rationalising the power structure; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) A Statement indicating the surplus/deficit (with subsidy and without subsidy) during 1997-98 and the debt liabilities as on 31.3.1998 is attached.

(c) and (d) Irrational tariff is one of the primary factors for the grim financial position of the SEBs. With a view to rationalising the tariff structure, the Central Govt. enacted the Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998 which, *inter-alia*, provided for constitution of SERCs by the State Governments. The Act also provides for giving subsidy to the SEBs by the State Govt. concerned in the manner to be determined by the concerned SERCs. The State Governments were also advised to take steps to corporatise and commercialise generating companies, transmission companies and distribution companies so that they are able to operate on commercial principles. Further, the Central Govt. is giving an additional interest subsidy of 1% (onward above subsidy of 4%) on the loans extended by Power Finance Corporation during 1998-99 for the projects covered under the Accelerated Generation and Supply Programme for those SEBs/State Governments who set up SERCs by 31st March, 1999.

(e) and (f) Orissa, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh have constituted SERCs. Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal have notified the SERCs. Other States like Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Goa have constituted the Selection Committees for selecting Chairperson and Members of the SERCs. Andhra Pradesh has enacted the APERC Act, 1998 which, *inter-alia*, provides for constitution of SERC. Karnataka has drafted the Electricity Reforms Ordinance. Uttar Pradesh has also drafted its Electricity Reforms Bill. Both, the Karnataka Ordinance and Uttar Pradesh Bill provide for creation of SERCs. Other States have also evinced interest towards reforms in general and setting up of SERCs in particular.

Statement

Details of the Surplus/Deficit (with subsidy and without subsidy) during 1997-98 and debts liabilities of the SEBs as on 31.3.1998

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Name	Profit/Loss		Debts Liabilities
		With Subsidy	Without Subsidy	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	APSEB (A)	121.55	-1134.46	5231.59
2.	*ASEB (U)	-358.72	-411.05	3458.74

1	2	3	4	5
3.	*BSEB (U)	-327.40	-327.40	3495.02
4.	GEB (U)	119.48	-1273.52	6691.76
5.	*HSEB (A)	47.75	-593.98	2158.23
6.	HPSEB (A)	29.45	29.45	1373.78
7.	KEB (U)	58.47	-331.51	1885.54
8.	KSEB (U)	24.61	-285.05	3668.13
9.	*MPEB (U)	126.62	-210.91	6062.90
10.	MSEB (A)	342.27	36.61	10261.00
11.	MESEB (U)	-43.00	-52.00	551.29
12.	PSEB (U)	49.40	-555.27	9454.03
13.	RSEB (U)	65.35	-625.37	4519.58
14.	TNEB (U)	-67.70	-317.75	4701.48
15.	*UPSEB (A)	170.80	-1385.97	18346.37
16.	*WBSEB (A)	18.25	-227.27	2425.35

*Based on Annual Accounts of the Boards for the year 1996-97 as the Accounts for 1997-98 have not been received.

(A) — AUDITED

(U) — UNAUDITED