

- (v) The ceiling for seeking approval of the Central Government for appointment of a person as Director in more than 10 inter-connected undertakings be raised to 20.
- (vi) The provisions of the M.R.T.P. Act should be extended to public sector undertakings, specially where the interest of the consumers is involved.
- (vii) Upward revision of the threshold limit of M.R.T.P. undertakings from Rs. 100 to Rs. 500 crores and in respect of dominant undertakings from Rs. One crores to Rs. 25 crores under Section 20 of the Act.

REGARDING CHANGES IN F.E.R.A., 1973

- (i) Clear guidelines should be drawn indicating norms under which Reserve Bank of India will grant approval for setting up branch offices abroad.
- (ii) Overseas trading offices be allowed to avail a longer duration post shipment finance by India negotiating banks.
- (iii) Indian banks be allowed to issue bank guarantee to the overseas offices out of credit limits sanctioned by the head office of the same bank in India.
- (iv) To further consolidate foreign exchange earnings, incentives for inward remittances be introduced. Incentives may also be introduced to foreign parties to retain and re-invest foreign exchange earned within the country.
- (v) The issue of rights shares to non-

residents should not require Reserve Bank of India's approval.

- (vi) The requirement of Reserve Bank of India permission for issue of bonus shares to foreign partners should be automatic.

(d) The suggestions made by ASSO-CHAM and FICCI have been noted by the Government. However, at present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to amend the M.R.T.P. Act, 1969 and the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act, 1973.

Power shortage in Capital

*6. SHRI R. GUNDU RAO:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power position in the capital was badly affected during June and July, 1990;

(b) whether the citizens had to remain without power for more than 20 hours in a day in most of the localities;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and whether Government propose to take any action and fix responsibility in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (d). The power supply position in Delhi during June and July, 1990 was substantially better than in the corresponding period last year. It is not correct to say that in most of the localities citizens had to generally remain without

power for long hours. The power supply to some localities was affected due to breakdowns of HT supply, transformers, snapping of the conductors, fault in the cables, overloading of the system etc. Keeping in view the extent of DESU's network, such dislocations in the power supply are unavoidable, particularly during the summer season due to the excess load. DESU, however, makes every possible effort to keep the extent of dislocation in the power supply to the minimum possible by carrying out extensive preventive maintenance and quick deployment of the breakdown gangs for restoration of the supply in the event of a breakdown in the supply of power to any locality.

Import of Electric Locomotives

7. SHRIDEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds given by the Asian Development Bank for the import of three phase electric locomotives in 1987 have remained unutilised and in the meantime the companies concerned have substantially raised the prices;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in importing these electric locomotives;

(c) the amount of the commitment charges, if any paid to the ADB for the non-utilisation of the loan so far; and

(d) the final decision, if any, taken by Government with regard to import of these locomotives?

THE MINISTERS OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). No, Sir, Though the loan was signed in December, 1987, the funds were programmed to be actually withdrawn from November, 1990 to January, '93. Additional time is likely to be

taken in the withdrawal of funds for 3 phase Electric Locomotives because of following reasons.

- (i) As these are state-of-the art locomotives, the evaluation and selection takes time.
- (ii) The necessity was considered by an Expert Group of Planning Commission when the evaluation of tenders were in advance stage of consideration.
- (iii) The validity of offers expired on 31.3.1990.
- (iv) ADB has suggested revised bids to be obtained.
- (v) the variation in price would be known when revised bids are received and evaluated.

(c) Upto December, 1989, commitment charges, on un-withdrawn amount of loan, amounting to about US \$ 7,67,050 have been adjusted against loan account.

(d) The issue is in close co-ordination with ADB with a view to finalising the procurement of locomotives early.

Private Sector Participation in Power Generation

***8. SHRI VARMANRAO MAHADIK:**
PROF. K.V. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allowed participation of private sector companies in power generation;

(b) if so, the details of the companies