

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government are keen to amend the election laws with a view to bringing about electoral reforms.

(b) The proposals forwarded by the Election Commission are still under examination in consultation with the Commission. After completion of the detailed examination of the proposals and formulation of views thereon, Government would hold consultations with political parties before arriving at final decisions. It is, however, not possible at this stage to specify the proposals which may emerge after consultation with political parties.

**Increase in Power Tariff for Cement Industry in Madhya Pradesh**

\*175. SHRI RAM PAL SINGH :

SHRI KRISHNA SINGH :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has increased power tariff for cement industry from June, 1986 ;

(b) if so, the extra amount each cement company will have to pay in that region, with details thereof ;

(c) whether this increase in power tariff will not lead to unfair competition vis-a-vis cement plants in other regions ;

(d) whether Government propose to increase the price of levy cement coming from that region ; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) and (b). It has been reported that the Government of Madhya Pradesh had revised upward the power tariff for certain industries including cement industry in respect of supplies made at 132/220 KV lines. As, however, the exact details have not been received

from the State Government, it is not possible to ascertain the incidence of increase of power tariff on individual cement plants.

(c) Cement plants in Madhya Pradesh are having the benefit of regular power supply and they are also nearer coalfields, compared to the cement plants in other major cement producing States, namely, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat. Hence the reported increase in power tariff may not affect the cement units in Madhya Pradesh adversely compared to such units in other States.

(d) and (e). No, Sir. Since the retention price for levy cement is fixed uniformly for the cement units in the country as a whole and it takes into account various factors and not only the power tariff, it is not considered necessary to make any revision in the price of levy cement produced by factories in Madhya Pradesh.

**Construction of Hydro-Electric Projects in Ladakh Region**

\*176. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the people of Ladakh have been requesting the Union Government to construct through the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation, two hydel projects i.e. Parkachik Hydel Project in Kargil and Domkhar Main Hydel Project in Leh of Ladakh region keeping in view the extreme backwardness and sensitiveness of the areas and acute shortage of power in the region ; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to implement the projects, at the earliest and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). The techno-economic feasibility of these schemes is yet to be established and the question of their implementation does not arise at this stage.