

Energy Programme has been launched, sites have been identified and apart from the demonstration projects which are funded by the State and the Central Government, all other sites are available to private entrepreneurs. The land is allotted by the State Government and the private entrepreneurs are given a certain number of incentives. Because of this new policy of the Government, the wind energy programme has taken off in India in a very strong way and we are already being recognised as one of the leading wind energy nations in the world.

DR. ASIM BALA: I know the Non-Conventional Energy Ministry is working efficiently even though there are some lacunae. I would like to know firstly what are the specific reasons for the diminishing popularity or acceptance of the use of solar thermal energy; and secondly in case of photo-voltaic energy how much we have developed in India with the indigenous technology.

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: We have a large solar energy programme including solar thermal and solar photo-voltaic. The premise of the hon. Member that the popularity of the programme is declining is not correct. We have progressively reduced the subsidies. So there are complaints from certain manufacturers who are used to a subsidy regime. But in actual fact the physical results and achievements have enhanced in both the programmes. Our targets are being achieved on a regular basis. The targets have also been enhanced by the Ministry.

Secondly, as regards solar photo-voltaic, we have built a large manufacturing base for solar modules as well as silicon chip manufacture. We have the central electronic laboratories which are Central Public Sector Undertakings. There is another Public Undertaking under Rajasthan Government and a large number of private industries as well as joint ventures from abroad are being set up in the country. We are developing a very large solar photo-voltaic industry in India.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to record my appreciation of the efforts that are being made by the Ministry. The hon. Minister is also quite active in this.

There is a tremendous scope for non-conventional energy in this country. There was a programme called Urjagram Programme in which one village in each Parliamentary Constituency was being taken up for this purpose. In one village in my area, which is only for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, this Programme was implemented. The Central Government provided 50 per cent, the State Government 25 per cent and a local development authority in my Constituency contributed the remaining 25 per cent. We had also made certain additional contributions. It has had a tremendous effect. I am glad that the Prime Minister is here. We have supplied these *chulhas* and also the solar lanterns to every household. There are about 102 houses in that village. I cannot forget this. I wish to put it on record that a 50 year old lady said to me that this had changed her entire life. I wish this can be said in every Scheduled Caste household with a smokeless *chulha* and a lantern. Therefore, I would request the Government, especially since the Prime Minister is here, to kindly extend the Urjagram Programme to at

least a few more villages in the Parliamentary Constituencies. Assembly segment-wise (*Interruption*) I think that will be highly appreciated. I would implore the Government and the Prime Minister to kindly take it up in a bigger way.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): I will take the earliest opportunity of visiting that particular village.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You have not pressed the button! ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: I have pressed the button but probably the wrong mike is lighted. I was just saying that I will take the earliest opportunity of visiting that particular village.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You are most welcome. I extend my invitation here and now.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: The Ministry of non-Conventional Energy Sources is implementing wide ranging programmes throughout the country for utilizing non-conventional energy sources. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the present mechanism for monitoring these large number of projects which are taken up all over the country. If there is no mechanism for effectively monitoring the projects which are implemented in various parts of the country, is the Ministry contemplating or is the Ministry going to have a mechanism for monitoring these projects for implementing properly?

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Sir, as far as this programme is concerned, we implement the bulk of it through the State Governments and other nodal agencies. There are almost millions of small equipment involved such as bio-gas, smokeless *chulhas* and so on. It is counter-productive for the Central Government to have a 100 per cent verification or monitoring. It is monitored through the Community Development Blocks as well as the State Governments. We have a few regional offices through which we conduct checks. We have to ensure the functionality of the equipment. We have a very strong monitoring programme across the entire spectrum of renewable energy from small items like improved *chulhas* to big machines and power plants like wind energy equipment.

[*Translation*]

Funds for Development of Parliamentary Constituencies

†2. SHRI K. PRADHANI:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have released an amount of rupees One crore for development work in the Constituency of each Member of Parliament during 1994-95;

(b) whether the Members of Parliament have been informed in this regard;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Government propose to reconsider the matter?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The amount in respect of all Lok Sabha Members has been released. In case of Rajya Sabha members also the amount has been released except in respect of those thirty two MPs who have not given their choice of districts.

(b) yes, Sir.

(c) and (d): Do not arise.

SHRI K. PRADHANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the Prime Minister for having released this money on time, that is, just before the 'working season'. During the last Session of Lok Sabha, some of our Members wanted some clarification with reference to the guidelines issued regarding the allotment of funds and the execution of work. In tribal and backward areas, departmental work can help the poor labourers to get their minimum wages fully; and the standard of work done will also be better than the work done through the contract system. I would like to know from the hon. Prime Minister whether any guideline has been issued in this regard to get the work done through the departments.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: The guideline already issued in this regard is that no contractor shall be used at any stage.

SHRI K. PRADHANI: Sir, my second supplementary question is regarding the allotment which is sanctioned to the Rajya Sabha MPs. I would just give an example which is there in my own State. There are ten Rajya Sabha MPs in the State and there are 30 districts. They are allowed to select one district of their choice. But, in some districts, there are two Rajya Sabha MPs also; and so, the distribution of Rajya Sabha MPs is not proportionate to the districts. In the meantime, Rajya Sabha MP's term extends for a period of six years. So, the other districts will be left out. Therefore, may I know whether the Government have given any thought to change the district and give some other option so that there will be equitable distribution of allotment?

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: This issue was raised in the other House. It was clarified so far as the current year is concerned, that is hon. Rajya Sabha Members will indicate one district each.

The suggestion that the hon. Members should be entitled to have another new district for the next year is under the consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very useful scheme and the funds have been sent directly to the District Magistrates by the Central Government. This is a welcome step. Sir, through you, I would like to know from the Government that if the hon. Members have some complaint regarding the quality of work, then where will they go for its redressal. The collector is under direct control of the State Government so in accordance with the

concerned State Government he may take some action. Is the Government proposing to set up a mechanism at the level of the Central Government to monitor the quality progress and assessment of the programmes launched under this scheme?

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: Mr. Speaker, it involves two points. First the guidelines issued in this regard point out that the District Magistrates will themselves monitor at least 10 per cent schemes being implemented in their areas. Besides, the committees comprising state officials have also been directed to monitor there.

So far as the Centre and the Ministry of Rural Development is concerned, we have local Development officers—one for small states and two or three for bigger states and normally rural development works are monitored by them and at that time this work was also considered as a rural development work. So, these officers were also directed to take up monitoring work. We hope that Planning and Plan Implementation Department, which will now undertake and monitor this work, include Nodal Ministry and it will make a proper arrangement. So, if the problems of the hon. Members do not get solved at state level they may inform the Nodal Ministry at centre level.

English

SHRI E. AHAMED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, even after the amount has been allotted by the Central Government or State Governments, there is confusion prevailing at the implementation stage. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether these schemes are only a part of the State plan and the MPs are to choose the schemes already approved by the State Governments. or, are the MPs at liberty to select their own schemes and ask for implementation?

Will MPs be given any discretion to choose some of the schemes which definitely help the private institutions, like educational institutions where there are some buildings and are required for the benefit of the people, especially in the villages?

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: The choice is specified in clause 2.5 of the guidelines which have already been issued. There are about 24 kinds of activities which could be indicated by the hon. Members to District Collector. There is a very wide choice. It includes construction of school buildings, providing for drinking water, construction of village roads and approach roads, construction of bridges, construction of buildings for local bodies, sports activities, libraries and so on. These have already been circulated. I will not take much time of the hon. House.

My suggestion is that it is not choice of the State Government to allocate some work. Hon. Members have a clear choice. Earlier, there were some difficulties because we had sent this money—Rs. 5 lakh—to the State Governments. In many cases, they had not transferred this money to the districts on time.

Secondly, they were expressing difficulties about district plan and so on. Now, this is an additional provision made by the hon. Prime Minister. This fund is directly sent to the Collectors. Members have only to indicate their

choice. This will be honoured by the Collectors without any difficulty. There is no limitation. This fund is created separately and kept with the Collectors. There will be no difficulty.

The hon. Member has raised a matter with regard to the registered bodies which run the schools or colleges. In the earlier guidelines, it had been indicated that trusts and societies and similar other commercial bodies would not be entitled. More than hundred suggestions have come from different hon. Members of both the Houses. This matter is under consideration. This will now be examined.

The hon. Speaker has been kind enough to indicate that a group of Ministers concerned with these activities will examine the final guideline. This guideline will be finalised shortly. It will take into consideration the various suggestions made by the hon. Members and how it could be implemented effectively without impediment at the grassroot level.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister said that there had been much delay in transferring these funds to the District Collectors. Will the Government consider to extend the time for use of this fund beyond the financial year?

I say this because the financial year will soon end. And I really do not know whether the deadline is 31 December or 31 March. But it will be difficult to use the whole funds within that time. Therefore, firstly, the Government may consider the request made even beyond the financial year. Secondly, I would like to know whether we have to submit our requests only before the deadline or whether we must see to it that the funds are effectively and completely utilised within that time.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: There are two aspects. The first aspect is regarding the delay. This matter was decided only in the month of August. Thereafter there were some formalities for obtaining the funds from the Ministry of Finance.

The second difficulty was that we wanted the telegraphic transfer to be made to each Collector. All the State Governments were not able to give us immediately the account numbers and other required details of the Collectors. In many cases, we had to actually contact the Collectors to get the account number, etc. to enable us to finish the transfer transaction. In the case of Lok Sabha, as against a total of 545, 532 are in possession and we have already disbursed all the Rs. 532 crore. The moneys have been received. In the case of Rajya Sabha, out of 245,239 are in possession and Rs. 207 crores have already been sent and only Rs. 32 crore remain to be sent. Once we get the indication about the choice of the State Government, we will do it.

So far as implementation is concerned, there will be no difficulty. The existing guidelines provide that the work should be completed in one or two seasons. Even in the first set of guidelines, there was no time limit and there was no stipulation that it had to be completed either by 31 December or 31 March. Once the choice is made, the required directions should be indicated to the Collectors as early as possible. At the same time, the money will not lapse. Two seasons mean that the next year will also be covered.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir,

the money has been sent to the Collectors and they have asked for suggestions. I want to know whether there is any provision in the instructions given by the Government that the scheme will not be implemented unless it is approved by the DRDA of the concerned district. This is the obstruction being put by many of the Collectors. They say that they will not implement the scheme unless the District Planning Board approves it. What is the real instruction of the Government in this regard?

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: This was the situation in the case of the earlier scheme involving Rs. 5 lakh. In the present scheme, a separate allocation of one crore rupees is made to each of the District Collectors. So, that question does not arise. Instructions are very clearly given to the Collectors that they have to honour the suggestions of the hon. Member. Of course, these suggestions should be within the prescribed framework of the guidelines and the Collector will ensure that the procedures relating to financial details, estimates, etc. are worked out properly. So, now there is no impediment. The earlier situation no longer obtains now. The Members have to give their suggestions to the Collectors and the schemes will be implemented and there will be no impediment from the State Government.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: But they are delaying the implementation and they insist on the approval of the DRDA.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: I may clarify that the rural development programmes, particularly those relating to 20 per cent of the JRY and the Intensified JRY and so on are being put up to the DRDA for normal approval. Hon. Members of parliament, hon. Members of the concerned State Assembly and some other Members are all there for this purpose. But this scheme of Rs. one crore is a separate thing. This is a separate fund with a separate allocation for hon. Members of parliament alone. The only thing required is that it should be within the framework of the guidelines and the Collectors will honour the suggestions of the MPs. It is not concerned with the DRDA at all.

SHRI SOBHANADRESHARA RAO VADDE: Mr. Speaker Sir, as far as our State is concerned, there are no impediments and we are able to take part in the rural development work to a great extent.

12.00 hrs.

Very recently the hon. Minister had informed about the allocation of Rs. one crore to each of the District Collectors. In that letter he has mentioned that a copy of the revised guideline is also enclosed but actually it is not there. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will take immediate steps to make available a copy of the revised guidelines to all the Members of Parliament or not.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: It is very clearly stated in the letter that the existing guidelines are being suitably revised, the copy of which would be sent to you separately. It is not being enclosed. The guidelines are being revised and after the revision it will be sent to each and every hon. Member.

One more question was asked, if you permit me, about the cases where there is a constituency in more than

one district. Instructions have been sent to the Collector and the money has been sent to the principal Collector. But if the hon. members give their choice of two or three districts over which their constituencies are spread over, for this the principal Collector had been instructed and proportional amounts will be transferred to those districts. There will be no difficulty on that account.

MR. SPEAKER: On this I would like to say that the hon. Prime Minister, hon. Finance Minister and the hon. parliamentary Affairs Minister have been very helpful. But I have a feeling that the guidelines issued are not very clear. Let us please make the guidelines clear and helpful. And I hope, it will be done before this Session is completed.

Written Answers to Questions

[English]

Drinking Water

*3. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to cover the entire country with atleast one source of drinking water by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the estimated per capita per day requirement of drinking water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI HARIJIBHAI PATEL):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the 1981 census there were 5,83,003 villages in the country. All these villages except 278 villages have been provided with atleast one or more source of potable water by the end of 1993-94. The remaining 278 villages were spilled over to be covered in the year 1994-95. Of these 15 villages have already been covered till 30.11.94. A statement showing the State-wise details of villages yet to be covered is enclosed.

(c) Norms adopted by Government of India provides for 40 litres of safe drinking water per capita per day for human-being.

Statement

Sl No	State/UTs	Total No. of villages as per 1981 census.	No. of villages with no source of safe drinking water.		
			as on 1.4.85*	as on 1.4.94	as on 1.12.94
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27379	15834	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3257	391	0	0
3.	Assam	21995	9570	5	3
4.	Bihar	67546	91990	0	0
5.	Goa	386	31	0	0
6.	Gujarat	18114	4911	9	9
7.	Haryana	6745	2314	0	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	16807	3539	0	0
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6477	2959	152	142
10.	Karnataka	27028	5410	0	0
11.	Kerala	1219	88	0	0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	71352	14714	0	0
13.	Maharashtra	39354	5174	22	22
14.	Manipur	2035	862	0	0
15.	Meghalaya	4902	3658	74	74
16.	Mizoram	721	595	0	0
17.	Nagaland	1112	623	0	0
18.	Orissa	46553	14443	0	0
19.	Punjab	12342	2254	0	0
20.	Rajasthan	34968	7310	13	13
21.	Sikkim	440	121	0	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	15831	4882	0	0
23.	Tripura	4727	2893	3	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	112566	43906	0	0
25.	West Bengal	38024	5930	0	0