

(c) The power sector outlay for Andhra Pradesh during the last 3 years was as under :-

1992-93	:	Rs. 532.62 crores
1993-94	:	Rs. 550.03 crores
1994-95	:	Rs. 639.15 crores

Employment Opportunities in Rural Areas

14. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :
SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN :
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI KUNJEE LAL :
SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the non-availability of the employment opportunities in rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the policy formulation by the Government to create more employment opportunities for the educated unemployed youths in the rural areas and to check migration to cities;

(c) the percentage of the educated unemployed rural youths to whom employment has been provided so far under the said policy; and

(d) the present population of the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR) : (a) Govern-ment is fully aware of the status of employment opportunities in rural areas.

(b) To create more employment opportunity for the poor educated unemployed youth in the rural areas various pro-grammes are being implemented by the different Ministries. This Ministry is implementing the scheme of Training of Rural Youth for Self-employment (TRYSEM) Under this scheme technical skills are imparted to poor rural youths to enable them to take up self/wage employment. Such youths are also provided loans/subsidy under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP).

(c) Since inception of the scheme of TRYSEM, a total number of 19.32 lakhs (upto 1994-95) trained youths have gained wage employment as a result of this scheme.

(d) The population of rural areas as per 1991 census is 62.715 crores.

[English]

Freight Equalisation Scheme

15. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :
SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to announce the complete dismantling of the freight equalisation scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c). After deregulation of pricing and distribution of steel, the main producers are charging actual freight upto the stockyard or freight element as existed under the earlier Freight Equalisa-tion Scheme (now Rs. 1510/- per tonne of steel and Rs. 945/- per tonne of pig iron) whichever is lower. The extra burden on this account is being borne by the main producers themselves. In doing so, the freight disadvantage to the States/areas located near the steel plants of the main producers has been removed. At the same time the advan-tage of lower freight under the Freight Equalisation Scheme to the distant States/areas has been protected. At present there is no proposal to discontinue this system because it benefits the iron and steel consumers in distant States/ areas.

Denial of Visa By Pakistan

16. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pakistan Government had denied per-mission to the Sikh pilgrims of Jammu-Kashmir to visit Nankana Sahib in Pakistan on the occasion of Guru Nanak Dev Birth anniversary;