English)

[English]

Removal of overhead Electric Wirings in Delhi

*425. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:

SHRIMADAN LALKHURANA:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Commission on urbanisation in its report submitted in August 1988 has recommended that overhead electric wires add to visual pollution;
- (b) if so, whether there is any proposal to lay underground the overhead electric wirings by the DESU to check pilferage of electricity, visual pollution and frequent fire accidents in jhuggis;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time by which the project is likely to be completed and the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CON-VENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The National Commission on Urbanisation in its report of August, 1988 has made the following observation in Para 12.4.30, regarding:-

Controls on outdoor advertising & overhead wires

"Perhaps the most distressing visual element in the old or historic quarters of our cities is the manner in which hardings, signboards and posters deface the facades of building. City-walls gates, architectural factures, house walls and even protected monuments-noth-

ing is spared from the destructive effect of completely indiscriminate use of out-door display methods. Overhead electric and telephone wires add their inconsiderable contribution to the visual pollution."

However, Commission had not made any specific recommendation on this subject, in its list of recommendations.

- (b) In view of the enormous expenditure involved and the resource constraints, DUSU has no proposal for the present to convert the existing overhead system to underground system.
- (c) and (d). Does not arise in view of answer to part (b) of the question.

[Translation]

New Rail Links in Haryana

*426. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to lay a railway line connecting Rohtak, Rewari, Tauru, Sohna, Nuh, Palwal with Meerut under the National Capital Region Plan;
- (b) whether it is also proposed to lay a metre gauge railway line from Gurgaon to Alwar for the development of backward area of Mewat:
- (c) if so, the time by which these lines are likely to be laid; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor in each case?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) Constraint of resources.

Sanction of Loans to Electricity Boards

2775. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state the details of the conditions laid down by the Power Finance Corporation for sanctioning loans to the State Electricity Boards and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CON-VENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): The following main conditions have been laid down by the Power Finance Corporation for sanction of loans to the State Electricity Boards, keeping in view, the need for ensuring timely implementation of the projects financed, efficient operation on completion, improving the financial/operational efficiency and debt servicing capability of the SEBs:

- (i) The project should conform to national priorities and should have been cleared by CEA (in the case of projects of less than Rs. 5 crores by the Board of the SEB) and approved by the Planning Commission.
- (ii) The project should be technically sound and satisfy one of the following:
 - (a) The project should aim at securing satisfactory power supply in terms of availability, reliability and quality:
 - (b) The project should aim at an integrated and efficient power system in accordance with the

- national policies and priorities.
- (c) The project should aim at removing critical bottlenecks in power generation, transmission and distribution:
- (d) The project should aim at securing a balanced growth of power in all regions.
- (iii) Investment should be economically and financially justified, with all the clearances.
- (iv) SEB cannot substitute PFC's funds for earmarked allocations by the Planning Commission.
 - (v) Formulation and implementation of Operational and Financial Action Plan.
 - (vi) Repayment guarantee with an undertaking from the State Government in regard to earning 3% return by the SEB as per the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, payment of subsidy, priority over recovery of State Government loans from the SEB until the PFC loan due is fully paid.
 - (vii) Interest and service charges at the rate of 12.5 per cent per annum.

Jhuggi dwellings on Railway land in Delhi

2776. SHRI KALKA DAS: SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEER-APPA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of jhuggi-jhonpri dwellings on railway land in Kishan Ganj, Sarai