The National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD) at Hyderabad was established in 1977. It is the national apex organisation for training, research and consultancy in the field of rural development. It also has a regional centre at Guwahati.

Target for Atomic Energy Generation

905. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target for atomic energy generation was fixed at 10,000 megawatts by the end of the year 2000 A.D.;

(b) if so, in view of the recent economic crisis this target is proposed to be revised;

(c) if so, the new target fixed for atomic energy generation;

(d) the total installed capacity of atomic energy generation;

(e) whether the production has been according to this capacity;

(f) if not, the percentage of production in the year 1990-91 as compared to the capacity; and

(g) the cost of power so generated therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir. This target was set in January 1984 as per the Nuclear Power Profile of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) for the period 1985-2000.

(b) Yes, Sir. The target has been revised taking into account the present resource crunch and status of the implementation of the programme.

(c) As per the proposals for the 8th Five Year Plan submitted by Deptt. of Atomic Energy to the Planning Commission, a target of achieving a total installed capacity of 7700 MWe by the year 2002 through nuclear power is envisaged. A clear position in this regard will emerge after finalisation of the 8th Five Year Plan.

(d) The present rerated installed capacity including the second unit of Narora Atomic Power Station which achieved criticality in October 1991 is 1500 MWe.

(e) and (f). Actual everage production is normally a percentage of installed capacity in any power station including nuclear. This percentage known as capacity factor varies from year to year and unit to unit due to forced and planned, outages and lower operational power levels compared to rated values for different reasons. The total annual capacity factor of nuclear power stations in commercial operational units excluding the first unit of Raiasthan station in the financial year 1990-91 was about 60% of the rated installed capacity that prevailed during the year. The operational power level of the first unit of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station has been restricted to about 100 MWe compared to the original installed capacity of 220 MWe consequent on the mechanical sealing of the light water leak in the south end shield of the reactor.

(g) The cost of generation of electricity from the nuclear power station presently in operation varies from about 55 to 100 paise/ KWh as of June 1991 including a return of 12% and depreciation of 3.6% on capital employed, at a normative capacity factor of 62.8%.