

(b) whether there is any plan under consideration of the Union Government to utilise the vacant land for any other purposes,

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) if not, whether the Union Government propose to hand over the same to the State Government for various development works?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) to (d) The Project had acquired land to facilitate construction of the barrage, its allied structures and development of infrastructure and their subsequent operation and maintenance. While the construction of main components of the barrage have been completed the operation and maintenance is a continuing process. With a view to avoid unplanned encroachment and excessive urbanisation very close to the structures and water bodies, modalities of land use planning and development activity adjoining Farakka complex are required to be worked out in coordination with the Government of West Bengal.

[*Translation*]

**Som - Kamla Dam**

1913 SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item regarding provision of gate to the Som-Kamla Dam Project appearing in the Sunday Mail of December '5 1991

(b) if so whether the Government have conducted or propose to conduct an investigation in this regard,

(c) if so, the details thereof and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) to (d) The project is being executed by the Government of Rajasthan. It is for the State Government to act, Centre has not received any report in the matter.

[*English*]

**Telecom Switching Unit**

1914 SHRI: SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI  
SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADYAY  
SHRI TARITBARAN TOPDAR

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have approved any proposal for telecom switching unit in Eastern part of the country,

(b) whether there is any offer from Western investors for such units, and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) According to the New Industrial Policy, no approval is required for the manufacture of telecom switching equipment. Intending manufacturers are required to file Industrial Entrepreneurs Memorandum with Ministry of Industry (SIA)

(b) M/s Siemens Limited, Bombay have filed memorandum of information under the industrial policy for setting up of a unit to produce telecom switching equipment at Salt Lake Complex, near Calcutta in technical

and financial collaboration with M/s Siemens A G of Germany

(c) The Entrepreneurs Memorandum filed by the party has been acknowledged and party can start manufacture of switching equipment in the country after obtaining the approval of foreign collaboration agreement from Reserve Bank of India

[*Translation*]

**Fruits and Vegetable based Industries in Darbhanga, Araria and Madhubani in Bihar**

1915 SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI  
ASHRAF FATMI  
SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA  
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state

(a) whether any assistance is being provided by the Government to the fruits and vegetable based industries located in Madhubani, Darbhanga and Araria parliamentary Constituencies,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the number of schemes for setting up fruits and vegetable based industries pending approval of the Government as at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO)

(a) to (c) No proposal has been received for providing financial assistance for setting up Fruit and Vegetable based industries in Madhubani, Darbhanga and Araria Parlia-

mentary Constituencies, from Government of Bihar.

**Investment in Energy Sector by Industrialists**

1916 SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA  
Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether some of the industrialists in private sector have intended to invest in the energy sector of the country, and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) (a) Yes Sir

(b) Towards the objective of bringing in additionality of resources into the Indian electricity sector in view of the paucity of resources with public sector Government has formulated the policy to encourage greater participation of private enterprises in electricity generation, supply and distribution filed by bringing about modifications in the legal, financial and administrative environment. The institutional framework for encouraging private sector comprises the Investment Promotion Cell in the Department of Power to assist prospective private sector entrants into the electricity sector by the constitution of High Powered Board comprising representatives from various concerned Ministries with Cabinet Secretary as its Chairman. At present the on going schemes in the private sector for a capacity addition of 953 MW. After the announcement of the new policy in October, 1991 proposals for additional capacity of 8162 MW have been received. Government intends to promote greater participation of private enterprises in the electricity sector.