

[English]

Hydro Energy Programme

2050. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has taken about twenty-five research projects under Hydrogen Energy Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the success has been achieved by this research; and

(d) time by which the outcome of the research will be used as an energy sources and the field of its utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has sponsored R & D Projects covering production, storage, utilization aspects of Hydrogen.

(c) and (d). Hydrogen is a versatile energy carrier and can be utilised for domestic industrial, transport applications as well as in rockets and space applications. Significant laboratory scale results have been achieved in photobiological, photoelectrochemical and electrolysis techniques for production of hydrogen. New hydride materials for storage of hydrogen have been developed and efforts are under way to further improve the storage capacity of such materials. A two wheeler motorcycle has been test-driven upto 25 Kms using the metal hydride storage device at Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. Tests have also been carried out on hydrogen fuelled small horse power engine utility systems at Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi. Research efforts are underway to improve the technologies and their economic viability which

are likely to yield results for widespread use in the long run.

Corruption in Brahmani Subarnarekha and Eastern rivers Divisions of CWC

2051. SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a news-item appeared in the 'sun Times Daily' and 'Samb Orriya Daily' dated May 9, 1991 and May 11, 1991 respectively regarding the corruption in Brahmani Subarnarekha Division and Eastern Rivers Division of the Central Water Commission; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A Chief Engineer of the Central Water Commission has been asked to investigate and submit report in the matter.

Loss in Westland Helicopter deal

2052. SHRI SHANKARRAO KALE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have incurred a heavy loss in Westland Helicopter deal;

(b) if so, the extent of loss and the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to sell these helicopters as scrap; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). There will be no financial loss to the Government as the purchase was

financed through a grant

(c) No, Sir

(d) Does not arise

Telecast of poor Visibility Programmes

2053 SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the video quality of the several programmes telecast by Doordarshan is very poor and sometimes picture remains very dim,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) the time by which video quality is likely to be improved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) (a) to (c) The video quality of the Programmes telecast from Doordarshan kendras is generally satisfactory and conforms to desired technical standard. However, in case of telecast of field based programmes produced outside studios, visual output of the telecasts are sometimes affected due to unavoidable constraints, namely improper lighting, non-availability of desired positions for equipment, sound pick-up problems and multiplicity of segment through which signal has to pass. It is the constant endeavour of Doordarshan to maintain the desired quality of the telecasts conforming to prescribed standards by adopting all possible means including close coordination with outside agencies

National Committee on Tourism

2054 SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to the reply given on 26th November, 1991 to Unstarred Question No 706 and state

(a) the names and qualifications of the

experts included in the National Committee on Tourism,

(b) the precise recommendations made by the Committee, and

(c) the status of implementation of each recommendation, separately?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) The names and designations of the experts who served in the National Committee on Tourism are the following

- 1 Shri Mohammad Yunus
Chairman
Trade Fair Authority of India
- 2 Shri S K Misra
Secretary
Ministry of Tourism
- 3 Dr (Smt) Kapila Vatsyayan
Secretary
Department of Arts
- 4 Shri K L Thapar
Adviser (Transport & Tourism)
Planning Commission
- 5 Dr K B Lall
Former Commerce Secretary
and
Ambassador to FEC
- 6 Dr B Venkataraman
Former Secretary
Ministry of Tourism and
Civil Aviation
- 7 Shri A N Haksar
Former Chairman
I T C
- 8 Shri Inder Sharma
Chairman
SITA World Travel
- 9 Shri Gautam Khanna
Sr Vice President
Oberoi Hotels and