

Rural electrification and energisation of tubewells in Bihar

1531. SHRI M. S. PURTY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government's attention has been drawn to news report in a local daily dated the 1st July, 1976 that lack of funds are seriously hampering the progress of rural electrification and energisation of state tubewells in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SID-DHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rural electrification is essentially a State programme. Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd. set up in the Central Sector, gives addition loan finance to the State Electricity Board for its implementation

An outlay of Rs. 11 crores has been provided in the Annual Plan of Bihar for 1976-77 for rural electrification. This includes Rs. 5 crores under the REC's Normal Programme, Rs. 3 crores under M.N.P. and another Rs. 3 crores under the Normal Development Programme of the State. Additional funds would also be available to the State from other financing institutions

Memorandum submitted by Communist Party of Tamil Nadu

1532 SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a deputation of Tamil Nadu State Communist Party of India presented a memorandum to the Advisers to the Tamil Nadu Governor on 2nd July; and

(b) the decisions taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-11220/76].

Technological help in respect of drug industry to developing nations

1533 SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state

(a) whether India has achieved expertise in the manufacture of drugs and is in a position to extend technological help to the developing nations;

(b) whether India could offer facilities for training of technical personnel in the fields of pharmacy, organic chemistry and chemical engineering also; and

(c) whether any country has approached India for this sort of assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SANKAR GHOSE): (a) India has achieved considerable expertise in the field of drugs and pharmaceuticals and is in a position to extend technological help to developing countries.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Cuba has approached United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) for supplying a project report for setting up of a multipurpose pharmaceutical unit. The UNIDO has referred the matter to Government of India which is being looked into.