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Uniform Distribution of Power

4428. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the electricity power has been concentrated in some parts of the country only without maintaining any balanced or uniform distribution for the entire country since independence; and

(b) if so, the measures to maintain the uniformity for the current running Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) and (b). At the time of Independence, the power supply industry was largely in the private sector and was confined to the urban areas. Since then, steps have been taken to promote power development on a rational basis. One of the early measures taken was to introduce comprehensive legislation providing for the setting up of State Electricity Boards to extend power supply to all the areas.

Since the energy resources of the country are unevenly distributed, a regional approach has been adopted in the matter of power development. Regional Power Grids are being developed and Central Power Stations are being established. Concerted efforts have been made to accelerate the implementation of Rural Electrification Schemes and remove imbalances in rural power supplies through special financing arrangements such as the Minimum Needs Programme, etc.

[Translation]

Demand for Railway Station near Dhosawas

4429. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) when was Dhosawas Station on Metre Guage line near Ratlam (W.R.) was set up;

(b) whether this station has been set up near the Ratlam Industrial area, 5 K.M. away from Dhosawas;

(c) whether the residents of Dhosawas have been demanding a station for them; and

(d) if so, the action taken so far in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Dhosawas station situated between Ratlam and Namli stations on Ratlam-Neemuch M.G. Line was set up with effect from 7.1.1978.

(b) Yes, Sir. This station is about 4.26 Kms. away from Dhosawas Village.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The proposal for opening of a haltstation near Dhosawas village was examined in the past but was not found justified.

[English]

Gas-based Power Plants along Hazira-Jagdishpur

4430. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are plans to set up gas based power plants along the Hazira-Jagdishpur gas pipe line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether gas will be adequate to feed both the power, and fertilizer plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) to (c). In view of the adequate availability of gas, Government have decided to set up in the Central sector gas based power stations with a total capacity of 1500 MW with combined cycle technology at Kawas, Sawai Madhopur and Auriya along the alignment of the Hazira-Bijaypur-Jagdishpur gas pipe line.

Separate Coaches/Compartments for Ladies in Long Distance Trains

4431. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :