

April, 1985 to make an indepth study of the working of the Eastern Coalfields Limited with a view to identifying the various problems plaguing the Company and finding out remedial steps/measures to be undertaken to get over these problems in order to enable the Company to achieve its main objectives of scientific development of coal reserves in its jurisdiction, increasing coal production and implementing other schemes for development and welfare. The Committee has submitted its report in November, 1985 which is yet to be examined.

Expansion and development of Nedumangad Telephone Exchange in Kerala

3227. SHRI T. BASHEER ; Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the expansion and development of Nedumangad telephone exchange is far behind the time schedule fixed by the Department ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to expedite the work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHIR RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of (a).

Shortage of Power in Karnataka

3228. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Karnataka is facing acute shortage of power ;

(b) if so, the remedial measures initiated by the Union Government to overcome the existing crisis ;

(c) whether Government have directed the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) to explore the possibility of conserving power in that state;

(d) if so, the report of the study conducted by Rural Electrification Corporation and the recommendations made ; and

(e) the details of the power conservation programme launched in Karnataka till date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) Karnataka State has been facing power shortages of varying degrees with an availability of 26.98 MU against an unrestricted requirement of 38.5 MU a day. To overcome the same, assistance is being provided from the neighbouring States of Kerala and Maharashtra to the extent possible. As a long-term measure, a number of new generating units are under construction which are likely to give an additional capacity of 593.25 MW during the Seventh Plan period.

(c) to (e) In January, 1985, Government sanctioned a pilot programme involving an expenditure of Rs. 3 crores for the purpose of assisting rectification of inefficient agricultural pumpsets in 8 States including Karnataka. As part of this pilot programme for implementation through Rural Electrification Corporation, a total of 5,625 pumpsets have been approved for rectification in Karnataka. The Rural Electrification Corporation is giving financial assistance in the form of Soft Term Loans @ Rs. 1,000 per pumpset to Karnataka Electricity Board. In addition, schemes costing Rs. 16.80 lakhs for conservation of Power in the system network through installation of loss saving equipments such as automatic switches for capacitors, etc have also been sanctioned for Karnataka by Rural Electrification Corporation under this Pilot Programme.

[Translation]

Setting up of Ancillary Industries in Madhya Pradesh

3230. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of Government for setting up ancillary industries for Department of Defence Production, Department of Railways, Nepa Paper Mills and cement industries ; and

(b) the number and names of ancillary industries set up during the last three years, year-wise for the departments Stated