

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The level of excise duty in such cases is fixed on merits from time to time.

**Electrification of villages in Madhya Pradesh**

3391. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :  
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of villages so far electrified in Madhya Pradesh :

(b) whether any target has been fixed for electrification of more villages in Madhya Pradesh during 1985-86 ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) the funds allocated for the purpose for the period 1985-86 ; and

(e) the number of villages out of them in Khargone District which are likely to be electrified during the same period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) 41,780 villagers have been electrified in the State of Madhya Pradesh upto the end of October, 1985.

(b) and (c) 3000 villages are targetted for electrification in Madhya Pradesh during 1985-86.

(d) An outlay of Rs. 37.90 crores has been provided for rural electrification programme in Madhya Pradesh during 1985-86.

(e) 45 villages of Khargone District are likely to be electrified during 1985-86.

**Full Utilisation of installed capacity of Thermal Power Stations**

3392. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :  
SHRI MANIK REDDY :  
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Financial Express' of 11 November, 1985 wherein it has been stated that more than 50 per cent of the installed capacity of thermal power stations in the country remains unutilised despite a huge power deficit and colossal transmission and distribution losses to Government :

(b) if so, the reason thereof ; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken by Government to ensure full utilisation of installed capacity of thermal power stations in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is not possible to make 100% utilisation of installed thermal capacity. It is necessary to subject the generating units to obligatory boiler overhaul and capital maintenance of turbines, depending on the conditions of the units and manufacturers, instructions. There is non-utilisation of capacity also due to system load variation. The plant load factor of thermal power stations during April-November, 1985 was 50.3%

(c) In order to further improve plant load factor of thermal power stations a number of measures have been taken. These measures include :

- (1) Assistance to SEBs/power stations for undertaking plant betterment programmes.
- (2) Assistance to SEBs/power stations for procurement of requisite quality and quantity of coal and also spare parts from indigenous and foreign sources.
- (3) Visit of task forces and roving teams to identify weak areas requiring improvement and preparation of time bound programmes for rectification.
- (4) Training of engineers and operation and maintenance personnel.
- (5) Implementation of a Centrally Sponsored Renovation and Modernisation Scheme for thermal stations, with central loan assistance ; and