

(b) Assistance has been provided to Madhya Pradesh from the unalloated out-put of Central Sector Stations in the Western Region from time to time. At present, Madhya Pradesh has been allocated 40% power from the unallowed portion. Besides Madhya Pradesh has availed assistance from Northern Region and Southern Region.

(c) According to 14th Electric Power Survey Report, the State of Madhya Pradesh is likely to have energy shortage of 9.6% during 1994-95.

(d) Various measures being taken to reduce the shortage of power in Madhya Pradesh included expending commissioning of new generation capacity, implementation of short gestation projects, reduction in T & D losses, implementation of demand management and energy conservation measures and arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas

[English]

#### **Abandonment of Airstrips in Maharashtra**

4509. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of airstrips and Vayudoot services in Maharashtra have been abandoned/discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that the State Government has offered land and has also proposed to share cost of the development and expansion of the airstrips in order to resume the Vayudoot services;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the present position to resume Vayudoot services from such airstrips in the State?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). No airstrip in Maharashtra has been abandoned by National Airports Authority. Due to operational and commercial reasons Vayudoot have discontinued their services from seven station vis, Aurangabad, Ratnagiri, Shorlapur, Nagpur, Akola, Nasik and Osmanabad in Maharashtra.

(c) National Airports Authority have not received any such offer.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) For the reasons indicated at (a) above, Vayudoot do not propose to resume services.

#### **Development of Tourism with Foreign/ NRI's Assistance**

4510. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether during his recent visit to new York in October, 1992 he invited foreign and non-resident Indians to invest in the development to tourism infrastructure in India;

(b) if so, the response thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Meeting were held with prominent Americans, non-Resident Indians, travel trade and Media including press and television. In these meetings the Foreign Investment Policy of India was explained and an invitation was extended to invest in India and to take advantage of the new liberalised economic policies. The

response was positive and is likely to result in increased foreign and Non-Resident Indian investment in India.

### Improvement in Broadcasting Capacity of Air Calicut

4511. SHRIRAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the broadcasting capacity of AIR Station, Calicut;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c). The existing 10 MW Transmitter of All India Radio, Calicut is being upgraded to 100 KW MW. It is likely to be completed during the VIII Plan period.

### Vishnu Prayag Multipurpose Project

4512. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4745 on August 27, 1991 and state:

(a) the reasons for under utilisation of funds for the Vishnu Prayag multi-purpose project during the Seventh Plan;

(b) the reasons for recommending only rupees one crore for 1991-92;

(c) the amount allotted for 1992-93;

(d) the reasons for the inordinate delay in the execution of the work; and

(e) the time by which it is proposed to be

completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). Against the original allocation of Rs. 50 crores recommended by the Planning Commission, the Uttar Pradesh Government approved an outlay of Rs. 20 crores. This was subsequently reduced to Rs. 6.2 crores and the actual utilisation by the Project authorities was Rs. 6.02 crores. owing to fund constraints, the State Government allocated only Rs. 1 crore during 1991-92 to start the infrastructure work of the project.

(c) For the year 1992-93 no amount has been allocated by the Planning Commission.

(d) and (e). The project works are not progressing as per scheduled programme due to funds constraint faced by Uttar Pradesh Government. The Project has also not been cleared from forest, environmental and hydrology angle. The project is expected to be commissioned during the 9th Plan period.

[Translation]

### Standard of Telephone Exchanges in Bihar

4513. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the standard of the telephone exchanges in Bihar is inferior in comparison with the standard of the telephone exchanges in other States;

(b) if so, the reasons there for; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remove this disparity?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI