

CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have to bear the losses worth crores of rupees due to non-completion of Kahalgaon power project in time;

(b) if so, the initial time schedule thereof;

(c) the reasons for non-completion of this project so far; and

(d) the time by which the said project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALAP NATH RAI): (a) Delay in completion of any project could result in cost overruns resulting from price escalation and exchange rate variation for the period of delay depending on the terms of the contract and source of supply of materials. The construction of Kahalgaon Super Thermal Power Project (4x210 MW) has been affected by delay in the supplies, variation in exchange rate of Indian rupee vis-a-vis major foreign currencies, price escalation in respect of uncompleted portion of supplies/works.

(b) Initial time schedule for completion of the project was January, 1993. This was based on the commissioning schedule of 48 months from July, 1987 (the date of signing of main plant contract with M/s. TECHNOFROMEXPORT, USSR), for the first unit and subsequent units at interval of six months each thereafter.

(c) The completion of the project has been delayed mainly because of the following reasons:-

(i) Delay in supplied from earshwhile USSR.

(ii) Non-sequential supplies.

(iii) Industrial relations problems.

(d) The completion of the project is now scheduled for 1994.

[English]

Tourists Visited Ladakh During 1991-92

5230. SHRI GURDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ladakh is emerging as the major tourist centre in J & K;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of tourists visited Ladakh in 1991-92; and

(d) whether Government propose to set up alternative route for visiting Ladakh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) Ladakh is increasingly becoming popular with the tourists. However, the relevant statistics are not available.

(d) and (e) Steps are being taken for the development of Kulu-Manali Leh route in coordination with the respective State Government.

**Joint Deep Sea Fishing Venture with
Sovles Union**

5231. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
SHRI HARIKISHORE SINGH:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a joint deep sea fishing venture was proposed to be taken up with the erstwhile Soviet Union;

(b) whether the proposal could not materialise because of certain conditions inserted upon by erstwhile Soviet Union;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to take up the matter with the new Soviet set up; and

(e) if so, the details of the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRIGIRIDHAR GOMANGO):

(a) Four joint ventures in deep sea fishing are proposed to be taken up with companies and organisations of countries of erstwhile Soviet Union.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Power Supply in North Bihar

5232. SHRI SHIVA SHARAN SINHA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of power supply in North Bihar and whether this area gets minimum supply of power in the country; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government for improving this position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CON-

VENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b): During the period April, 91 - February, 92, the energy requirement in Bihar was 6815 million units against which the availability was 4789 million units, which represents a shortage of 29.7%. The power supply to various areas in State of Bihar falls under the distribution system of the State and is the prerogative of State Government/SEB. State is provided its due share from Eastern Region as well as assistance from Northern Region as a special case. Various other measures being taken to increase the availability of power in Bihar include maximising generation from existing generating stations, implementation of Renovation and Modernisation Programme, reduction in Transmission and Distribution losses, effective load management and energy conservation etc.

[English]

Orange Juice Processing Plant In Maharashtra

5233. SHRI RAMACHANDRA GHANGARE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of orange processing plants set up in Maharashtra along with its locations;

(b) whether any of the above plants is sick unit and if so, the help Government extended to such plants for survival;

(c) whether any plant exported any of its products and if so, to what extent they have earned foreign exchange; and

(d) whether any incentive or assistance have given by the State and the Union Government to the above plants to augment their sales?