

[English]

Metallurgical Coke

2204. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether metallurgical coke for zinc plants has been imported despite its availability in abundance in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) :

(a) and (b). Government has constituted an enquiry committee to examine the matter of important of metallurgical coke by Hindustan Zinc Limited. Committee's report is awaited.

Foreign Aid in Power Sector

2205. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of foreign aid received during 1993-94 in power sector and the amount remained unutilised;

(b) the reasons for not utilising the aid in full; and

(c) the power generation capacity expected to be achieved in the country with this aid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN

MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYANAIDU) : (a) External assistance is usually released as per the progress of the project. An amount of Rs. 3250.32 Crores of external aid was utilised in power related projects during the financial year 1993-94, leaving a balance of Rs. 31060.09 Crores which would be drawn in subsequent years in accordance with the project implementation schedule.

(b) The reasons behind the slow utilisation of external assistance, inter-alia, are lack of counterpart funds with project authorities particularly in the State Sector, inadequate project preparation, organisational weaknesses of the implementing agencies, procurement delays, and other bottlenecks/constraints in regard to land acquisition, environmental and various clearances etc.

(c) 31 large power projects under various stages of construction with the external assistance when completed are expected to yield a generation capacity of 14663.5 MW generation capacity.

New Telephones

2206. PROF. UMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

a) the target fixed for installation of new telephones during 1994-95, State-wise; and

(b) the number of telephones actually installed so far, State-Wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b). The information is given in the attached Statement.