(a) whether there is any proposal for the development of Non-Conventional Energy Sources in the flood affected areas of Bihar;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to open power stations based on solar energy in villages in Navada district also; and

(c) if so, the amount proposed to be spent for this purpose and the time by which this work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) to (c). A proposal for setting up a 10 KW Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) Power Project at village Pursottampur in Vaishali District and another 15 KW SPV Power Project at village Hetanpur in Patna District have been received from the State Government. Central Government provides financial assistance of 50% of the ex-works cost of equipments for such projects. However, there is no proposal under consideration for SPV Power Projects in villages in Navada District.

[English]

Exports/Software Technology Park

2925. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of exports by the Indian Software Industry during 1994-95;

(b) the share of small scale sector therein;

(c) whether the National Small Industries Corporation has developed a Software Technology Park in New Delhi; and

(d) the other steps proposed to be taken to boost software/exports by the small sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS, AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) During the year 1994-95 export of computer software by Indian Software Industry is estimated at Rs. 1535 crore.

(b) Since Software Industry is delicenced and can be set up anywhere, most of the units are not required to be registered as SSI units. Further, the units located in EPZ, under 100% EOU scheme and under STP schemes are also normally not required to register themselves as SSI units. However, based on the information available in the Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) it is estimated that the share of small scale sector in the export of computer sector may be approx. 5-10% of the total software export from the country.

(c) Yes, Sir. The National Small Industries Corporation would be providing infrastructure facilities to the 100% Software Exporting Units operating under the STPI Scheme.

(d) The small scale sector is given due preference in all the activities of the ESC like participation in international exhibitions, representation in trade delegations and any other promotional activity initiated by the Council. However, there is no proposal from the small scale sector to initiate any further steps in this regard.

[Translation]

Residential Accommodation

2926. DR. P.R. GANGWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is actual shortage of residential accommodation for married army personnel in most of the units of armed forces;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to acquire such accommodation on rent till the construction of sufficient number of such flats;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND HOLDING ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Shortage in government married accommodation is being met by way of hiring. Permission is also given to the officers to hire houses on rent reimbursement basis. Personnel below officer rank are given Compensation in Lieu of Quarters.

(c) and (d). Hiring is being resorted to at almost all the military stations all over India.