

(a) whether power can be generated on large scale through non-conventional energy sources like sea-tides, wind-mills bio-gas, solar energy etc. in Jamnagar, Dwarka, Okha, Porbandar, Bhavnagar and other areas of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the efforts made in this regard;

(c) the year-wise extent of power in K.W. generated through these sources during the last five years in each district of Gujarat and other areas of the country?

(d) the power in k.w. likely to be generated through these sources during 1995, 1996 and 1997; and

(e) the type of assistance and financial assistance provided for generating power in Gujarat through these resources?

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) and (b). The State of Gujarat has good potential for generation of power from wind, solar and tidal energy etc. Wind power projects with aggregate capacity of 65 MW have been set up in Jamnagar, Dwarka, Okha, Porbandar and other areas of Gujarat. In addition to this one project of 2 MW capacity of Small Hydro and 3 projects of solar photovoltaics power with total capacity of 14 KM have also been commissioned in the State. The Ministry is also exploring the possibility of setting up of a 900 MW Tidal Power Project in the Gulf of Kutch.

(c) It is estimated that the generation of power is roughly 12-25 lakh units/MW from wind, about 40-50 lakh units/MW from small hydro, and 1400-1600 units/KW from solar photovoltaic power plants.

(d) The generation of power from non-conventional energy projects in Gujarat during 1995, 1996 and 1997 will depend on the aggregate installed capacity.

(e) Several promotional, financial and fiscal incentives are being provided by the Central and State Governments to encourage renewable energy power projects. The incentives include 100% accelerated depreciation, five year tax holiday, concessional custom duty, excise duty exemption, capital and interest subsidies. The State has also offered wheeling, banking and buy back facilities and sales tax incentive for power generated from NRSE.

Army Firing Practice

2990. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Furore over Army's firing

practice" appearing in the 'Statesman' dated July 25, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to shift the existing practising range in order to protect affected human lives and environment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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) and (b). Yes, Sir, the news item was regarding Netarhat Field Firing Range, a range notified by Government of Bihar up to May 2002 for firing practices by the Army. A firing practice was planned on the 3rd and 4th August 1995 and civil administration was approached for clearance. This drew an adverse reaction from the civilian population and Press as reported in 'Statement' dated 25.7.95. To avoid any untoward incident, the scheduled firing practice was cancelled by the Army.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. However, because of continuing pressure from the local population against the use of existing notified range, State Govt of Bihar have indicated that they are identifying an alternative site in lieu of Netarhat Field Firing Range. No such proposal has yet been received by the Govt of India from the State Govt.

Wind Farm

2991. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU :

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the first commercial wind farm has been set up recently in a non-coastal state :

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have drawn-up plan to tap wind energy potential in the country during the remaining period of Eighth Five Year Plan and also during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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) and (b). The first commercial wind farm has been set up by Madhya Pradesh Windfarms Ltd., a joint sector company, at Jamgodarni in Devas District of Madhya Pradesh.

(c) and (d). Under the new Strategy and Action Plan,