

(v) MOU on trade and Economic Relations. Deals with the modalities of carrying out counter-trade through escrow accounts between India and Ukraine.

(vi) Agreement on the Inter-governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological, Industrial and Cultural Cooperation. Provides for the setting up of a Joint Commission to consider questions arising out of the implementation of bilateral agreements, and to review, study and make recommendations for the development of cooperation in the above mentioned fields.

(vii) Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation. Provides for training of Ukrainian nationals in Indian institutions, deputation of Indian experts to Ukraine in mutually agreed fields and for placement of Indian students in Ukrainian higher educational institutions.

(viii) Protocol on Consultations between MEA and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. Provides for regular consultations between the two Foreign Ministries to exchange the implementation of bilateral agreements, exchange views on international and bilateral issues and for interaction in the international arena.

(ix) Agreement on Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer space between ISRO and the Ukrainian National Space agency. Provides for cooperation in space research in areas including remote sensing, communication, material processing, mutual use of ground facilities, etc.

(x) MOU on Air Services. Provides for the route schedule and other modalities of air services between the two countries.

(f) Bilateral agreements in the fields of shipping, the avoidance of double taxation, and defence cooperation are under discussion. A proposal for negotiating an agreement on mutual protection and promotion of investments and an extradition treaty are under consideration. There is an invitation from President to President Kuchma to visit India. The Ukrainian Defence Minister and the Deputy Minister of Industry have been invited to visit India, on our side, EAM and RRM have been invited to pay official visit to Ukraine. Dates for the next session of the Joint Commission as well as the Foreign Office consultations are under discussion.

Drinking Water Problem in Rural Areas of Orissa

2274. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY : will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals submitted by the Government of Orissa to solve the drinking water problem in rural areas of Orissa where there is no source of water; and

(b) the number of proposals out of them approved by the Union Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI HARJIBHAI PATEL) : (a) No such proposal has been received :

(b) Does not arise.

Agreements with private companies on Power projects

2275. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued any guidelines to State Governments regarding signing of agreement with private companies for new power project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether those guidelines are being fully observed by the State Governments;

(d) if not, the names of the States who are not following the guidelines; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) The Government have issued guidelines to the State making competitive binding mandatory from 18-2-1995, for setting up private power plants. The Central Electricity Authority have been advised not to entertain any proposal for techno-economic clearance after 18-2-1995 in case the project has not gone through the competitive bidding route. The State Governments have, therefore, been effectively estopped from signing Memorandum of Understanding with private power developers after 18.2.1995, for projects that require CEA's concurrence.

(c) No cases of a State Government not observing the guidelines has come to notice so far.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

Welfare Activities Undertaken by MESCO

2276. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the measures proposed to be undertaken by MESCO (the proposed steel plant at Sukinda, Jajpur district of Orissa) for social welfare activities in the area;

(b) whether there is any proposal to start a separate social welfare wing in the industry; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) The State Government of Orissa have intimated that MESCO Group has proposed to spend at least 1% of their profit in the social welfare activities in the field of health and education.

Poverty Ameliorations Programmes

2277. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI :
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount spent during each of the last