

ऊर्जा बंदास्त में राज्य बंदी (जो विक्रम बंधुवन) : (क) से (घ). सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

Electrification of villages in Gujarat

6841. SHRI CHITTUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) how many of the Gujarat villages have been supplied with electricity so far and how many left now;

(b) how many villages will get power in 1980—85 period in Gujarat, and

(c) whether Harijan bastis in the villages which were electrified received power at the same time, if not, how many bastis supplied and how many left to be electrified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) There are 18,275 villages in the State of Gujarat as per 1971 census. Out of these, 11,071 villages had been electrified up to 31st May, 1980, leaving behind 7,204 villages yet to be provided with electricity.

(b) Proposals regarding electrification of villages in the country during the period 1980—85 have not yet been finalised. During the year 1980-81 however, 1,500 villages are expected to be electrified in the State of Gujarat.

(c) According to the latest progress report received from the Gujarat Electricity Board, 6,537 villages in the State have the facility of street-lighting as at the end of March, 1980. Out of these, in 6,199 villages street-lighting has been extended to the adjoining Harijan Bastis also. 291 electrified villages in the State do not have Harijan Bastis attached to them.

1808 L.S.—5

Thus, in 47 electrified villages the streetlighting facilities still remain to be provided to the adjoining Harijan Bastis. Electrification of Harijan Bastis has been receiving special attention of the Government. In all schemes of rural electrification being framed by the State Electricity Boards, it is invariably ensured that wherever street-light facilities are proposed in the main villages, such facility is also extended to the adjoining Harijan Bastis.

Cancellation of Banni Canal of Narmada Waters

6842. DR. MAHIPATRAY M. MEHTA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Banni Canal of Narmada waters for irrigating the northern part of Kutch is being cancelled in spite of the popular demand; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR PANDAY): (a) and (b). Government of Gujarat have reported that with the allocation of 9 million acre feet of water made by the Narmada Tribunal for irrigation, as well as domestic and industrial use, it is not possible to cover Banni area under Narmada Command.

Doordarshan Kendra at Sambalpur

6843. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to convert the present Doordarshan Kendra at Sambalpur in Orissa from relaying station to programme producing Centre; and