

MOU

1375. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Himachal Pradesh Government is backing down from the MOU dated 20.10.1992 for Parvati H.E. Project and desiring enhanced allocation in the project;

(b) whether the Rajasthan Government has requested to the Union Government for intervening in the matter;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government have any plan for taking up this project as a joint venture; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) An MOU dated 20.10.1992 was signed by the Governments of Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Gujarat and National Capital Territory of Delhi for investigation and execution of Parvati Hydroelectric Power Project in three stages. The project is located in Parvati Valley (Kullu District) in Himachal Pradesh. The equity contribution as mutually agreed by the State Governments will be as under :

1. Rajasthan	:	40%
2. Haryana	:	25%
3. Gujarat	:	15%
4. Delhi	:	15%
5. Himachal Pradesh	:	5%

The MOU also provides that 12 per cent of energy generated from the project shall be given to Himachal Pradesh free of cost. The remaining 88 per cent of energy generated from the project shall be apportioned amongst the States, including Himachal Pradesh in the ratio of their equity participation.

The Government of Himachal Pradesh has requested for enhancement of their share in equity from 5 per cent to 25 per cent by effecting the reduction in the share of other partner States. However, this is not acceptable to the Government of Rajasthan and a request has been made to this Ministry to persuade the Government of Himachal Pradesh to honour the principle of sharing of power as incorporated in the MOU.

Since the MOU was signed between the partner States, it is not possible for the Central Government to play the role of an arbitrator. The question of sharing of power has to be mutually decided by the signatories of the MOU.

(d) and (e) At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Central Government for execution of the Project as a joint venture.

Parliament House Quota

1376. LT. GEN. (RETD.) PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a quota called Parliament House Quota for Railway reservation some years back, which does not exist now;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering to re-introduce the same for the benefit of the people coming from the constituencies of the Hon'ble Members of Parliament; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) Reservation quotas in second class sleeper, berths were earmarked in various trains for providing accommodation to the companions of Members of Parliament when the Members of Parliament were entitled to travel in first class and their companions in second class. Since the companions of MPs are now entitled to travel in first/AC 2-tier classes alongwith MPs, there is no need to retain these quotas in Parliament House Booking Office. Reservation requisition from MPs in favour of their quests etc. are entertained in the computer terminals provided at Parliament House Booking Office having direct link with the main Passenger Reservation System at New Delhi Computerised Reservation Office.

Mass Leave by Technical Employees

1377. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the technical employees of Doordarshan and All India Radio were on mass leave during third week of May, 1997;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and duration of their leave;

(c) the impact on the programmes of Doordarshan and All India Radio due to their leave and the total loss of revenue suffered by the Government as a result thereof; and

(d) the details of demand of employees and the decision taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir. Technical Employees of All India Radio and Doordarshan were on mass casual leave on 18th and 22nd May, 1997, against the recommendations of 5th Central Pay Commission. In spite of agitational programme, AIR/Doordarshan services, barring stray cases, continued uninterrupted. There was no loss of revenue to the Government.

(d) The demands relate to upward revision of pay scales and have been referred to Committee of