

(b) Indian vessels (under Central Inland Water Transport Corporation, Calcutta) carried cement, stonechips, steel billets, electric pole, white cement, etc., in the last three years as under;

1992-93	—	8978 M.T.
1993-94	—	14473 M.T.
1994-95	—	20974 M.T.

(c) Steamer services from Silchar covering Badarpurghat and Karimganj to Bangladesh are not covered under the existing Indo-Bangladesh Inland Water Protocol on Transit and Trade.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f). The Government have taken up with the Government of Bangladesh for the designation of vessels by Indian operators for inter-country trade from Pandu and/or from Karimganj, instead of the Present arrangement of nominating them only from Calcutta. Further discussions are scheduled to be held with Bangladesh on the expiry of the current Inland Water Protocol on Transit and Trade in September, 1995.

(g) Does not arise.

Hydel Power Generation

4822. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the hydel generation had increased during 1994-95 as compared to 1993-94;

(b) if so, the extent of increase recorded and the target set for 1994-95; and

(c) the measures being taken to increase the hydel power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Actual hydel generation during 1993-94 and 1994-95 as against the target is as per details given below :

Generation	1993-94	1994-95		%age of 1993-94	%age over 1993-94
	Actual	Target	Actual		
Hydro	70375	69000	82518	119.6	117.3

Thus the actual generation during 1994-95 was 119.6 of its target and 117.3% over previous year.

(c) For better tapping of the hydel potential available in the country, amongst the measures initiated are - creation of specific public sector companies for setting up large hydro projects; higher allocation of plan

resources including higher net budgetary support for hydel schemes and offering special incentives for encouraging private sector participation in hydel power generation.

[Translation]

Gold Deposits in River Beds

4823. SHRI BHAWANI LAL VERMA : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether gold deposits have been discovered in the Shankh and Maini rivers flowing across the Madhya Pradesh-Bihar border;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these gold deposits are being illegally exploited by private persons;

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(e) the steps being taken to exploit these river bed gold deposits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) and (b). Exploration carried out by Geological Survey of India (GSI) has indicated incidence of low grade placer gold in the rivers Maini, Sonajhori and Ib mainly in the sector of Banjor-Semarkachhar-Pandripani-Pharasbahar. Exploration for primary gold in quartz veins and chert bands in this area has indicated poor gold mineralisation estimating 0.25 million tonnes of gold ore with average grade 0.6 g/t of gold, 3.92 g/t of silver, 12.83 g/t of antimony.

(c) and (d). Local tribals have been traditionally since being panning the alluvium of Maini river valley for recovery of gold particles. The State have decided that tribals may continue to do so.

(e) The deposits are not economically viable for commercial exploitation.

Government Residences Converted into Memorials

4824. SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 81 answered on December 7, 1994 and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected about the number of Government Bungalows in New Delhi converted into Memorials;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total funds released for their maintenance during 1994-95 and 1995-96?