

(b) if so, the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Hydro-Electric Power Projects in River Valleys**

8264. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hydro-electric power projects under consideration in the river valleys of the Ganga, Brahmaputra and Godavari; and

(b) whether any perspective plans have been drawn up for full exploitation of the hydro-electric power potential of the above three river valleys?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) There are 39 proposed major/medium hydro electric schemes, based on the potential of the Ganga, Brahmaputra and Godavari basins, which are at various stages of examination by different authorities.

(b) The hydro-electric potential of these river basins is proposed to be developed in phases, keeping in view the regional power requirements, the relative economics of the proposed projects, the *inter-se* priority accorded by the state Governments, the availability of finances and availability of clearances from the inter-state angle.

#### **Laying of pipeline in Maharashtra**

8265. SHRI ARVIND TULSHI KAMBLE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to lay new pipelines for the supply of petrol and

diesel in Maharashtra during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the places where the new pipelines are to be laid; and

(c) whether Sholapur-Aurangabad-Nanded is also included in this schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Bharat Petroleum Corporation has a proposal to lay a petroleum product pipeline from Bombay to Manmad. This project is included in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

(c) No, Sir.

#### **Utilisation of Gobar Gas in Industries**

8266. SHRI A.C. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to utilise gobar gas instead of coal, lignite and other inflammable articles in industries, which has proved pollution free in foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c). Gobar gas can be used for such purposes in the rural areas provided it does not deprive the rural folk of use of gobar gas for cooking purposes, or raise the price of gobar. Biogas from other sources, such as industrial effluents, is however already being used to replace coal or oils in pilot units set up under the programmes of the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources. It is proposed to considerably step up and diversify this activity if sufficient financial allocation is provided to the Department.