

logy, presently used by BHEL, ranges from Rs. 1550 to Rs. 1650 per KW, depending on quality of coal, rating of the set, site location and scope of supply. The cost of generation at thermal power station is dependent upon a number of factors, such as capital cost, type of cooling, type of coal, cost of coal etc. Hence the cost of generation varies from station to station. The cost of generation at the power station bus, as estimated for the thermal plants, which have been recently approved by the Central Electricity Authority varies from 13.30 paise per unit (KWH) to 21.37 paise per unit. There are no power plants as yet in the country based on fluidized bed boilers or on coal gassification/combined cycle technologies nor do BHEL have these technologies at present.

BHEL have not allocated funds for carrying out research and development separately for three technologies. Nearly 100 R&D projects are going on currently for improving the various characteristics of the conventional pulverised coal fired power systems of a total budgeted cost of around Rs. 150 lakhs for the current year. The progress to date on all these R&D projects is encouraging. In the conventional areas, R&D efforts are concentrated on projects to improve the performance of BHEL's equipment and their input raw materials and to finalise designs for larger size units. BHEL, have up-to date incurred an expenditure of Rs. 80 lakhs on R&D programmes on fluidized bed boiler technology. The present stage of performance trials on fluidised combustion boiler is expected to be over by mid 1978. BHEL have estimated the total cost on the combined cycle demonstration plant including development of a fixed bed pressurized coal gassification system as Rs. 6 crores to be spent in the next three to four years. The conceptual design and mechanical engineering specifications for major components for the combined cycle project which has started only recently have been completed.

अम्बर चरखों का उत्पादन तथा उसके लिये सहायता

2957. श्री धरमसिंह भाई पटेल : क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों में, वर्षवार, कितने अम्बर चरखें बनाये गये;

(ख) प्रत्येक अम्बर चरखे के बनाने तथा उनके विक्रय के लिये खादी प्रामोद्योग आयोग को कितनी तथा किस प्रकार की सहायता दी गई;

(ग) इस समय किस-किस प्रकार के अम्बर चरखे बनाये जाते हैं, उनके मूल्य क्या क्या हैं और क्या कम कीमत वाले अम्बर चरखे बनाने का कोई प्रस्ताव है और यदि हां, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) क्या खादी तथा प्रामोद्योग आयोग ने अम्बर चरखा बिजली से चलाने की अनुमति दी है और यदि हां, तो कब और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

— उद्योग मंत्री (श्री जाजं कर्नाबडिस) :

(क) से (घ). सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और समा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

Average of surfaced road in Bihar

2958. SHRI L. L. KAPOOR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether surfaced roads in Bihar are far less than national average;

(b) if so, whether any plan for making up this shortage has been drawn up by the Government of India and the State Government; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) to (c). Available statistics show that on 31-3-1975, Bihar had an average surfaced road length of 12.4 Kms. per 100 sq. Km. of area as against the All-India corresponding figure of 14.6 Kms. Proposals for making up the deficiency have essentially to be formulated by the State Government and brought up before the Planning Commission. No such proposals have been received from the State Government on the basis of the progress made by them till now. The road development programmes formulated under the Five-Year and Annual Plans are intended to meet the developmental and traffic requirements, keeping in view the availability of resources and competing claims for other sectors/programmes.

Rural Electrification in Madhya Pradesh

2959. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) progress of the electrification of villages in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the progress of the scheme is behind the schedule; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken to fulfil the scheduled target?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) 15,047 villages were electrified and 1,89,016 pumpsets energised as on 30-9-1977.

(b) and (c). For 1977-78, the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board has fixed a target of 1600 additional villages and 30000 new pumpsets. Upto 30-9-1977, 1218 new villages have been electrified and 8734 pumpsets energised. It is expected that in the months ahead the progress will improve. The Madhya

Pradesh Electricity Board has been asked to pay special attention in this regard.

Memorandum submitted by President of Sikkim National Congress

2960. SHRI K. B. CHETTRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Memorandum was submitted to the Home Minister by the President of Sikkim National Congress a few months back containing allegations against the Chief Minister and his colleagues in various matters of the State; and

(b) if so, whether any enquiry is being held?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH):

(a) No memorandum has been received from the president of Sikkim National Congress containing allegations against the Chief Minister and other Ministers of the State.

(b) Does not arise.

राष्ट्रीय और क्षेत्रीय खादी ग्रामोद्योग बोर्डों को हानि

2661. श्री रामलाल राही : क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राष्ट्रीय और क्षेत्रीय खादी ग्रामोद्योग बोर्ड इस समय हानि पर चल रहे हैं और यदि हां, तो उनकी वर्तमान वित्तीय स्थिति कैसी है; और

(ख) क्या हानि के कारणों का पता लगा है और उन्हें हानि कब से हो रही है ?