

**Funds for rural electrification in Maharashtra**

1234. SHRI P. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3804 on the 14th December, 1977 regarding rural electrification in Maharashtra and state:

(a) the total amount of funds advanced to Maharashtra Government and to Maharashtra Electricity Board by the Central Government and Rural Electrification Corporation for the un-electrified fifteen thousand villages in Maharashtra during the last three years under Rural Electrification programme;

(b) whether there is any machinery to check up whether the amounts so advanced have been utilized properly and the physical targets achieved as per target dates; and

(c) if so, the assessment by the said machinery?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The Rural Electrification Corporation is one of the sources of funds for rural electrification programmes which are being implemented by State Electricity Boards. The Rural Electrification Corporation disburses loans only to the State Electricity Boards. During the period 1974-75 to 1976-77, the Corporation has disbursed loans to the extent of Rs. 12.81 crores, by way of instalments to the Maharashtra State Electricity Board.

(b) The Corporation has a system of concurrent monitoring through periodical reporting and field visits of the projects financed by it.

(c) The performance of the Maharashtra State Electricity Board in the implementation of the rural electrification schemes sanctioned by the Corporation, both in relation to utilisation of the amounts released and the physical targets achieved upto 30th September, 1977 is indicated below:

*Utilisation of loan amount*

	Rs. crores
Loan amount released upto 30-9-1977 . . . . .	31.26
Expenditure reported upto 30-9-1977 . . . . .	31.00

*Achievement of Physical targets :*

	Phased target	Achievement upto 30-9-1977
Villages electrified . . . . .	4,946	3,769
Pumps energised . . . . .	43,114	30,032
LT/Agro industries . . . . .	4,534	3,495

**Cost of operation of news agency system**

1235. SHRI YASHWANT BOROLE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the various representative bodies and various unions of the newspapers employees have urged to lay down basis on which the cost of operation of the news agency system should be borne by different users;

(b) whether any norms in which a news agency should be organised has

also been urged to be laid down; and

(c) if so the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) No such communication has come to the notice of this Ministry.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

उपभोक्ता वस्तुओं के उत्पादन के लिए बड़े उद्योगपतियों को दिये गये आशय-पत्रों को रद्द करने के लिये उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार का अनुरोध

1236. श्री हरगोविन्द वर्मा : क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने केन्द्रीय सरकार से उपभोक्ता वस्तुओं के लिए बड़े उद्योगपतियों को दिए गए आशय-पत्रों को रद्द करने का अनुरोध किया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस पर केन्द्रीय सरकार ने क्या निर्णय किया है ?

उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (कुमारी आभा माईति) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

जिला मुख्यालयों में औद्योगिक केन्द्र

1237. श्री हरगोविन्द वर्मा : क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार प्रत्येक जिला मुख्यालय में एक औद्योगिक केन्द्र की स्थापना करने का है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो कब ?

उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (कुमारी आभा माईति) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) यह एक प्रावस्थाबद्ध कार्यक्रम है । प्रारम्भ में ग्रामीण उद्योग परियोजना जिलों में कार्य किया जायेगा और प्रगामी रूप से योजना का विस्तार देश के सभी जिलों में कर दिया जायेगा ।

Development of battle tank for Indian Army

1238. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a battle tank matching its kind in the world has been developed by Combat Vehicle Research Development for Indian Army; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) and (b). No. Sir. The battle tank based on qualitative requirements projected by the Army is under development at Combat Vehicles Research & Development Establishment, Avadi, Madras.

Sale of arms and ammunitions to private dealers by General Manager, Rifle Factory, Ichhapur

1239. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 9909 dated the 10th May, 1973 regarding sale of arms and ammunition to private dealers by General Manager, Rifle Factory Ichhapur and state:

(a) whether the investigation has since been completed in respect to all the transactions so far made;