

Out of the three officials whose services were terminated, two have not preferred any appeal and the appeal from the third has been considered and rejected. As regards the officials demoted, he has been reinstated to his original position with a minor penalty

(d) Does not arise.

#### Rural electrification programmes in Mizoram

5741. DR. R. ROTHUAMA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that in spite of electric wiring from Silchar to Aizawl being completed a year ago, no villages along with the main lines have been electrified at all, and that rural electrification programmes is undertaken only at a snail's pace and so far about 8 villages throughout Mizoram have been poorly electrified;

(b) what is the specific amount of Central assistance for rural electrification that has been proposed to be given to Mizoram State;

(c) in view of the availability of large volume of water in numerous rivers like Kolodyne, Deleswari, Kar-napuhli, Sonai, alongwith many high natural water falls thereof whether the Central Government propose to set up Hydro-Electric Projects in Mizoram to enhance the pace of rural electrification in Mizoram utilising such abundant natural resources; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Central Government to speed up rural electrification works, throughout India especially in North Eastern Hill areas?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Out of 229 villages in Mizoram 10 villages were electrified as on 31-1-78. Electrification of villages in Mizoram has been generally slow due to its geographical conditions, lack of communication facilities, inadequate

transmission/distribution network in the area, lack of load development etc.

(b) An outlay of Rs. 60 lakhs was provided for rural electrification in the Annual Plan of Mizoram for 1977-78.

(c) Provision has been made for investigation of hydel projects on Daleswari and Mat stream in Mizoram.

(d) The allocation of funds for rural electrification in the country has been increasing over successive Five-Year Plan periods. With a view to ensuring a minimum quantum of electrification, a definite allocation is made under the Minimum Needs Programme. Rs. 45 lakhs has been allocated under this programme. The Rural Electrification Corporation has also opened regional office including one at Gauhati, in order to have a closer liaison with the State Electricity Boards and to assist them in the formulation of schemes.

#### Strength of DTC fleet of buses

5742. SHRI DHARMA VIR VAS-ISHT: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the present strength of the D.T.C. fleet of buses together with the number required for passenger traffic needs of today;

(b) the number of buses added to the fleet during 1977-78;

(c) the number of buses requisitioned from the neighbouring States; and

(d) steps taken to meet the needs of commuters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) As on 29-3-78 the D.T.C. had a fleet of 2194 buses. These, along with buses hired by the Corporation and those operating under its control, are adequate to meet the