

and 20th February, 1980 the issues relating to the sharing of Tista waters. The meeting was adjourned and it is proposed to be resumed as soon as possible.

(c) The Tista barrage and a part of the canal system in West Bengal are under construction at present and it is expected that substantial benefits will accrue from the works in about five years time.

Position of Electric Supply with Breakdowns/Power Cuts

35. SHRI CHANDRABHAN AT-HARE PATIL: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) State-wise position of electric supply, indicating breakdowns power cuts during the last three months and the reasons for such power cuts;

(b) what was the shortfall in the production of foodgrains, in the production of industrial produce and how much labour remained idle and unutilised as a result of such power cuts; and

(c) what is the State-wise position of average breakdown of electricity per day in the rural areas in the last three months?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) Statement I indicating State-wise position of power supply for the last three months from December, 1979 to February, 1980 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-393/80]. Another statement No. II giving the power cuts/restrictions in the various States during December, 1979 to February, 1980 is also laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-893/80]. Power cuts/restrictions on use of power had to be imposed by the various State Governments due to shortfall in availability of

hydro power to meet the increased load demand as a result of drought in most of the States, high forced outage rate of thermal generating units and inadequate installed capacity in some States. Under conditions of simultaneous outage of more than one generating unit, load-shedding had to be resorted to in addition to normal power cuts/restrictions. Breakdowns in power supply are further contributed by failure of transmission and distribution system.

(b) Although shortage of power does adversely affect agricultural and industrial production but it is difficult to quantify the loss in production due to shortage of power alone as there are a number of other factors like availability of raw material, industrial relations, finances etc. which also affect production. For the same reason, it is difficult to assess as to how much labour had remained idle as a result of such power cuts alone.

(c) States have been advised to accord high priority to the supply of electricity to rural areas for agriculture. However, due to shortage in overall availability, supply to rural areas is sometimes limited to a specified number of hours and at times due to unforeseen outages of generating units, load shedding is resorted to in order to preserve the stability of the system. In view of the large network of distribution lines in the rural areas all over the country, it is difficult to monitor the average breakdown of electricity per day in the rural areas.

S.O.S. by Gujarat Government to rush Coal supply for Power Stations

36. SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT:
SHRI D. P. JADEJA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gujarat Government have sent an SOS on the 7th Feb