

to report about international news. All India Radio now has its special Correspondent at four places, namely, Teheran, Cairo, Dacca and Hongkong. It has also part-time correspondents at 7 places, namely Brussels, Kathmandu, Bonn, London, Nairobi, Damascus and Moscow. All India Radio is planning to post more correspondents abroad. The countries proposed to be covered are Afghanistan, Nepal, Pakistan, Singapore, U.K., USSR, USA, Kenya and Zambia.

(b) Though we are still dependent upon foreign agencies for news of international events, steps are being taken to promote the Non-Aligned News Agency Pool of which press Trust of India is a member. The Non-aligned countries are aware that there is persistent and serious imbalances in the global information situation. They are committee to improve the flow of direct information and speed of communication between the Non-aligned countries in order to promote between them greater awareness and understanding of their common political and economic goals. With a view to give their determination a practice shape, at the end of 1979, 70 Non-aligned countries out of a total of 92 are participating in the Non-aligned News pool's activities. The volume of exchange of news item in the Pool system at that time was estimated at 40,000 words per day distributed in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.

#### **Kerala slashed power supply to Karnataka during January, 1981**

49. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala has slashed power supply to Karnataka from the month of January, 1981 onwards;

(b) if so, whether Kerala reduced power supply to Karnataka State from 3.2 million units to 1.5 million units;

(c) if so, the main reasons for the above power reduction;

(d) whether Karnataka had to face great crisis on all the fronts including industrial due to this power cut from the Kerala Government; and

(e) if so, in what way the Union Government have helped to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) to (e). According to information made available by the Kerala State Electricity Board, Kerala has not slashed power supply to Karnataka. However, there has been some reduction in quantum of power supply due to break down of generator at Idiki and due to commissioning of 220 KV sub-station at Calicut tapped from interstate line to meet power requirements of northern Kerala which does not have adequate generating capacity. Further, the non-supply of power by Karnataka to their Kasaragod area due to their equipment failure in Karnataka resulted in equivalent reduction of power by Kerala. The Kerala State Electricity Board has stated that after rectification of generator defects maximum possible power transfer over the single circuit 220 KV interstate line is being made and the average export at present is about 2.25 million units per day.

#### **Views of Supreme Court on Pending Cases**

50. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Supreme Court has expressed shock at the large number of cases pending before Session and High Courts in some State;

(b) if so, the number of such cases and States; and

(c) what are the suggestion made to dispose of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) and (b). According to the information received from the Supreme Court, the Court