

Programme for Electrification of Hamlets in Villages of Himachal Pradesh

8940. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the R.E.C. has sanctioned any programme for the electrification of 'left out' hamlets in villages which have been declared to have been electrified in Himachal Pradesh, including Harijan hamlets;

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned for this purpose district-wise for each one of the 12 districts;

(c) whether any relaxation in the criteria and conditions for electrification or subsidy in wiring the hamlets

has also been allowed so as to electrify the hamlets of the weaker sections of society in hill areas; and

(d) if so, the nature thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rural Electrification Corporation has, up to the end of March, 1981, sanctioned 11 Mini Under-Developed (MU) Schemes involving a loan assistance of Rs. 157.249 lakhs for electrification of 'left out' villages/hamlets and one scheme for a loan assistance of Rs. 8.577 lakhs for electrification of Harijan Bastis adjoining already electrified villages in Himachal Pradesh. The district-wise position of these schemes is indicated below:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	District	Category	No. of Scheme	Loan amount Sanctioned
1.	Bilaspur	MU	2	31,295
2.	Hamirpur	MU	2	26,131
3.	Kulu	MU	6	89,007
4.	Simla	MU	1	10,816
5.	Kangra	HB	1	8,577
			12	165,826

(c) Rural Electrification Corporation has been giving special consideration to electrification schemes in backward and under-developed areas including hilly areas. The schemes in these areas are considered with relaxed viability criteria and are eligible for financial assistance on liberalised terms and conditions in the matter of rates of interest and repayment of loan.

(d) In the case of Mini under-developed (MU) and Mini UNU (MN) schemes, 10 per cent gross return is to be achieved at the end of second year as compared with 15 per cent in the case of Mini Backward (MB) schemes and 20 per cent in the case of Mini Advanced (MA) schemes. Further, in MU

and MN schemes, the investment on 11 KV (Main & Spur) lines is excluded from the capital base of the project for the purpose of computation of gross return and in the case of MN category of schemes covering hill and tribal areas, the investment on distribution transformer centres is also excluded from the capital base. Also, in the case of MA, MB, MU and MN categories of schemes, for left-out villages/hamlets, the viability is adjudged on the basis of gross return at the end of second year only while in the case of regular area schemes such as Ordinary Advanced (OA), Ordinary Backward (OB), Specially Under-developed (SU) and MNP/RMNP schemes, the viability is adjudged both on the basis of the gross/net return at three stages of 5th.

/7th year, 7th/10th/15th year and 15th/20th/25th year at different rates.

Vacant Posts of Class IV Employees in The Ministry of Energy

8942. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of class IV employees lying vacant in his Ministry inspite of the fact that ban imposed on recruitment of such employees has been lifted by the Government;

(b) the number of requests received from sweepers/farashes for their transfer to the post of Peons etc. in accordance with the rules made in this regard and action taken thereon; and

(c) the arrangements made to appoint daily wagers employed in his Ministry against vacant posts of class IV employees either on regular or *ad-hoc* basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) The position is as under:—

(Department of Power):

Five Group D Posts. (i.e. Class IV) posts of Peon are vacant on short-term basis. Daily Wagers have been appointed against these posts.

(Department of Coal):

Five Group D (i.e. four posts of Peon and one post of Jamadar) have recently fallen vacant.

(b) A Sweeper in the Department of Power made a request for appointment on transfer as Peon, for which he is not eligible, at present.

(c) Arrangements to appoint daily wagers to Group D posts (Class IV posts) falling vacant from time to time are made in accordance with the relevant instructions.

Setting up of Petrol Pumps in Orissa

8943. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up some petrol pumps in Orissa during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the places where they will be set up; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir, However, since the Industry plan for 1981-82 for development of retail-outlets (petrol/diesel pumps) is yet to be finalised, complete details regarding locations etc. are not available at present.

Hydro, Solar and Bio-Energy Production to Attract Petro-Dollars

8944. SHRI RAJESH PLOT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to attract Petro-dollars for hydro, Solar and bio-energy production in India; and

(b) how far such steps have succeeded in terms of number of projects with their details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b). No projects relating to solar and bio-energy production in India have been taken up for petro-dollar assistance. On the hydro-electric side, a list of projects for which assistance from petro-dollar nations which have been received or is expected from them and amount of such assistance, is given in the statement.