

SHRI CHHOTAY SINGH
YADAV:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE
SHARMA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that implementation of a number of Hydro-power projects has been delayed because of the Inter-State disputes on sharing of power; and

(b) the estimated rise in the cost of the projects anticipated and the steps taken by the Government to resolve the Inter-State disputes on sharing of power to ensure expeditious implementation of these projects to avoid further escalation in cost?

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

(b) This varies from project to project. The Central Government has taken the initiative in holding discussions with the concerned states with a view to resolving the disputes. It has also offered to take up such projects in the Central Sector, as a possible solution to the disputes.

Televising Asian Games in colour

370. SHRI N. E. HORO:

SHRI JAI NARAIN ROAT:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for televising the Asian Games to be held in 1982 in colour T.V. four out-door broadcasting and television vans will be purchased; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the plan of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. 4 colour O.B. Vans and some additional colour equipment is being procured for providing limited colour

coverage of Asian Games to foreign broadcasting organisations. This will enable Doordarshan to provide both live telecast via satellite and programme capsules in colour common for all organisations.

Performance of Telephones in Delhi

371. SHRI N. E. RORO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are satisfied with the performance of Telephones in the Capital;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Posts and Telegraphs Department are proposing to spend Rs. 30 crores to provide concrete ducts for the telephone cables of Delhi to protect them from monsoon damage; and

(c) if so, the details regarding the policy and programme of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON):

(a) The network efficiency of Delhi Telephones is not upto the desired level. Steps are being taken to improve the performance.

(b) Cable duct scheme covering 34.39 route kilometers with estimated cost of Rs. 4.36 crores has been sanctioned. This will protect the new cables which will be drawn through ducts.

(c) The policy of the Department is to provide ducts on all major junction routes in multi-exchange systems. The 'primary' cables falling en-route will also be laid in ducts.

State Electricity Boards

372. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government are satisfied with the functioning of the Electricity Boards in the States; and

(b) if not, what are the suggestions or guidelines issued to the State Electricity Boards in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b). The working of the State Electricity boards is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Government through its various agencies, plays an advisory role in improving the functioning of the Boards. Guidelines on the following subjects have been issued to the State Electricity Boards from time to time:—

(i) Methodology of maximising generation from the existing installed capacity;

(ii) expediting commissioning of new generating capacity through better project management;

(iii) reduction of losses in transmission and distribution systems.

Financial crisis in State Electricity Boards

373. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a press report published in the Indian Express of July 19, 1981 that the majority of the State Electricity Boards are on the verge of financial collapse;

(b) whether Government have reviewed the financial position of these boards;

(c) if so, what are the details of the cumulative loss and profits shown by each State Electricity Board as on 1st April, 1979, 1980 and 1981;

(d) what are the reasons for the heavy recurring losses incurred by the State Electricity Boards; and

(e) what other factors have been identified for the poor financial state of these Boards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The financial performance and the problems of the SEBs have been a matter of concern to the Central Government as well as the respective State Governments.

Even though some SEBs have been earning profits, of late many SEBs have reported current financial liquidity problems.

From time to time, the Department of Power has been issuing suitable guidelines to the SEBs for bringing about improvements in the financial and the other aspects of their management. The progress of construction of new projects by SEBs and their financial and operational performance are reviewed periodically and remedial measures adopted at the annual conferences of the State Power Ministers and on other occasions.

These aspects were also reviewed at a Conference of the SEBs and other senior officials at a meeting held on July 17, 1981, and specific guidelines were issued to the SEBs to minimise delays in project construction and improve financial and operational performance so as to be able to meet the growing needs of the power development programme that has been undertaken.

(c) A statement showing the profits/losses of the different SEBs as on April 1, 1979 is enclosed. The audited accounts of the SEBs for the years 1980 and 1981 have not been received.