

### General and Requirement of Power in Bihar

3771. SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total generation and requirement of power in Bihar; and

(b) the details of the programme chalked out to increase the power production in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) The present average power requirement in Bihar is about 11 MU/day. The average availability is about 8 MU/day.

(b) The following measures have been taken to increase power production in Bihar:—

(i) Renovation of thermal units at Patratu & Barauni has been taken in hand to improve the generation.

(ii) Commissioning of new capacity is being expedited.

(iii) Assistance from Northern Grid is being given depending upon system conditions.

(iv) Bihar has share in Central Generation Project at Farakka which is being expedited.

(v) DVC has been asked to afford maximum assistance.

### Women's employment and their economic dependence on menfolk

3773. SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH: SHRI K. MALLANNA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of concern expressed by the National Federation of Indian Women about the consistent fall in women's employment and their economic dependence on menfolk; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken by Government to provide more opportunities for job and better working condition to women?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b). Government is aware of press reports in the matter. However, the available statistics of women employed in the organised sector of industries from 1975 onwards shows an upward trend, as indicated below:—

Year	Number of women employed as on the 31st March of the year (in lakhs)
1975	22.3
1976	24.0
1977	24.5
1978	25.6
1979	26.1
1980	27.0
1981	27.9
1982	29.0 (Provisional)

### Votes secured by elected candidates in Assam

3774. SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that few elected candidates in Assam have secured less than 1000 votes;

(b) what is the number of elected candidates who have secured less than 1000, less than five thousand and less than 10,000 votes; and

(c) what are the reasons for these candidates securing so few votes?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGAN NATH KAUSHAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information furnished by the Election Commission is as under:—

(i) No. of elected candidates who secured less than 1000 votes — 11

(ii) No. of elected candidates who secured less than 5000 votes, but above 1000 — 23

(iii) No. of elected candidates who secured less than 10,000 votes, but above 5,000 — 19

(c) The Commission has intimated that the percentage of poll was low due to the poor response from the electorate caused by a large number of factors including alleged intimidation of voters, boycott of polls by certain political parties, atmosphere of violence created in the State by interested parties.

#### Supply of Hybrid Telephone Exchanges by French Company

3775. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the C.I.F. Elkatail Company of France, which has entered into the contract been entrusted to supply Hybrid Telephone Exchanges in the country is charging Rs. 2,400 per line while it is available in the international market at the rate of Rs. 1,500 per line;

(b) is it also a fact that Hitachi and Fusitsu Company of Japan had offered to sell better and more modern telephone system at much lower cost; and

(c) if so the reasons why we have entered into a deal for a backward technology at much higher cost rejecting a more modern technology available at much lower cost?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL): (a) and (b). As per the agreement entered into with M/s. CIT-ALCATEL, on the basis of bilateral offer from the French Government, the average cost of digital electronic exchange equipment including accessories like power plant, Main Distribution Frame, Maintenance equipment and Spare parts is Rs. 2185 FOB per line. This cost is lower than the cost of similar digital equipment quoted in international bids received till the time the agreement was signed. The cost of exchange equipment, however, varies due to several complex parameters like, size of an exchange, traffic carrying capacity facilities provided, etc. No price offers for digital exchanges have been opened since the agreement with CIT-ALCATEL was entered into and as such comparative prices from other suppliers are not available.

(c) Does not arise.

उर्वरक कारखानों को सरकार द्वारा दी गई वित्तीय सहायता

3776. श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा :  
श्रीमती किशोरी सिन्हा :

क्या रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उर्वरक कारखानों को प्रतिवर्ष सरकार द्वारा वित्तीय सहायता दी जाती है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सहायता किस ढंग से तथा कितनी धनराशि की दी जाती है ;

(ग) क्या इस सहायता की राशि कम करने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है और यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ; और

(घ) क्या उनके उत्पादों के मूल्यों में वृद्धि करके सहायता संबंधी क्षति को पूरा करने का कोई प्रस्ताव है ?