

crores need not be submitted to the Central Electricity Authority for its concurrence.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Promulgation of CCS

107. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether with the promulgation of CCS (Recognition of Service Associations) Rules, 1993, the associations enjoying recognition then had been given ad-hoc recognition under the 1993 Rules subject to the condition that the concerned association would fulfil all conditions, including verification of membership strength within one year;

(b) if so, whether some service associations of Ministries/Departments of Government of India have failed to fulfil the condition within one year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the provision under which the date has since been extended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c). In terms of rule 4 of the Central Civil Services (Recognition of Service Associations) Rules, 1993, all Service Associations/Federations which were recognised before notification of these Rules on 5.11.1993 were allowed to continue to be so recognised for a period of one year, which was later extended (by amendment of Rules) for six months upto 4.5.1995. As majority of such associations did not apply for recognition, fresh opportunity was given to apply by 30.6.1996, which has again been extended upto 31.10.1996. But due to disruption in the communication system as a result of the recent strike by the Central Government employees, it has been decided that the applications received upto 15.11.1996 may also be accepted as a special case. It is for individual service associations to take a decision regarding whether to apply for recognition or not but as per available information, majority of service associations have applied for recognition.

Murari Committee

108. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken regarding the implementation of the recommendation of the Murari Committee;

(b) whether Government have given any assurance in the Parliament and outside for a time-bound

implementation of the recommendations of Murari committee; and

(c) if so, the decision taken to honour the assurance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) to (c). The recommendations of the Review Committee on Deep Sea Fishing Policy have been examined and it has been decided to accept these, in Principle. Action to implement the decisions has been initiated.

Power Policy

109. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :
SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the liberalisation policy in power sector the Government have taken fresh initiations for level playing between public sector undertakings and independent power producers/foreign investors in power generation/transmission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the financial and other incentives offered to private sector for the purpose;

(d) whether the package of incentives offered to private sector is also applicable to public sector undertakings in power sector;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the joint ventures proposed by public sector undertakings in power generation and transmission; and

(g) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (e). The incentives to encourage greater private participation in power generation and distribution are equally applicable to power projects set up in private as well as public sector after 30.3.1992. Financial and other important incentives to encourage private sector participation in power sector are :

- * Private sector companies can set up enterprises to operate either as licensees or as generating companies.
- * All private companies entering the Electricity Sector hereafter will be allowed a debt-equity ratio upto 4:1.
- * Promoter's contribution should be at least 11% of the total outlay.
- * To ensure that private entrepreneurs bring in additionality of resources to the sector, not less than 60% of the total outlay for the

project must come from sources other than Indian Public financial Institutions.

- * Upto hundred per cent (100%) foreign equity participation can be permitted for projects set by foreign private investors.
- * The rates for depreciation in respect of assets have been liberalised.
- * The customs duty for import of power equipment has been reduced to 20% and this rate has also been extended to machinery required for modernisation and renovation of power plants.
- * A five year tax holiday has been allowed.
- * The excise duty on a large number of capital goods and instruments in the power sector has been reduced.
- * The excise duty on a large number of capital goods and instruments in the power sector has been reduced.
- * Upto 16% return on the foreign equity included in the tariff can be provided in the respective foreign currency.
- * Fixed costs can be recovered at 68.5% PLF for thermal and at 90% availability for Hydro plants. Attractive incentives are prescribed for performance beyond this PLF.
- * Tariff can be fixed in deviation of norms stipulated in the March, 1992 tariff notification provided that the per unit tariff does not exceed the per unit tariff worked out on the basis of the norms.

(f) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) along with Spectrum Technologies, USA and Jaya Food Industries, Hyderabad have jointly promoted Spectrum Power Generation Limited for setting up 208 MW COGT Power project at Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh.

(g) Government of India is closely monitoring progress of all the private power projects including joint venture power projects proposed by public sector undertakings with private companies with a view to remove bottlenecks, if any, in early execution of the projects.

Pooyamkutty Hydrel Project

110. SHRI MULLAPPALY RAMACHANDRAN :
PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Pooyamkutty Hydrel Power Project proposed by the State Government of Kerala is pending for clearance;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c). The Pooyamkutty Hydroelectric Power Project in Kerala (2x120 MW) was accorded techno-economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority in 1984 at an estimated cost of Rs.250 crores. The project was accorded investment clearance by the Planning Commission in August, 1986 subject to the State Government's obtaining the forest clearance. Environmental clearance to the Pooyamkutty Hydroelectric Power Project in Kerala was accorded by the Government of India in June, 1985. The forest clearance for the project has been rejected. The State Government has represented for a re-examination of the decision under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to Ministry of Environment and Forests. The proposal has been discussed with the State Government and Ministry of Environment and Forests and in October, 1996 a Committee has been constituted by Ministry of Environment and Forests for indepth analysis of the Pooyamkutty Hydroelectric Project.

[Translation]

LPG Connections

111. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have discontinued its most publicised 'TATKAL SEVA' scheme regarding issue of LPG connections sine-die;
- (b) if so, the reasons thereof;
- (c) the total number of beneficiaries of this scheme during the last six months; and
- (d) whether the Government propose to restore the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Total number of beneficiaries of this scheme during the last six month i.e. April to September, 1996, is 54,777.

(d) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

Sanitation and mater Supply

112. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of projects regarding cleanliness, supply of drinking water, development of rural areas of