

Investment by Rural Electrification Corporation in Fourth Plan

8000. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the investment of Rural Electrification Corporation in the Fourth Plan in (i) the country as a whole (ii) Orissa (iii) Madhya Pradesh and (iv) Bihar;

(b) out of the total investment in Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar, how much investment has gone to the Tribal areas in these States; and

(c) what outlays for tribal regions in the Fifth Plan are envisaged?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) and (b). The investment through the Rural Electrification Corporation during the Fourth Plan period is likely to be Rs. 190 crores. The Rural Electrification Corporation have so far sanctioned 410 schemes involving loan assistance of Rs. 226.39 crores. Out of these loans, the Corporation has so far disbursed an amount of Rs 111.16 crores. The total amount of loan sanctioned and the amounts disbursed so far in regard to Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar are given below:

	<i>Quantum of Loan sanctioned</i>	<i>Amount disbursed so far</i>
	<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>	
Orissa	11.82	5.0
Madhya Pradesh	18.48	9.47
Bihar	17.31	9.05

The Rural Electrification Corporation have a special category of loan applicable to under-developed hill areas, desert and tribal areas and out of the schemes sanctioned under this category one relates to Singhbhum district in Bihar involving loan assistance of Rs. 42.15 lakhs.

(c) The Fifth Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised.

Officers belonging to Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes sent for Training and on Deputation Abroad

8001. SHRI CHANDRA SHAILANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the officers of Railways belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled Tribes are normally not sent for training and on deputation abroad; if so, why;

(b) how many officers were sent in all for training and on deputation abroad, Department-wise, zone-wise and year-wise during the last three years;

(c) how many officers belonged to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes separately; and

(d) what further steps his Ministry is taking to ensure that there is adequate representatio of scheduled castes ad scheduled tribes for deputa-tation and training abroad?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Survey for Railway Lines in Backward Areas of the Country

8002. SHRI S. C. SAMANTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) which of the backward areas are likely to be surveyed during the current year for the purpose of laying new Railway lines and in that priority; and

(b) whether any funds have been provided in the current year's Budget for the purpose; and if so, the amount thereof?