

**The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c), (d) and (e). Facilities of sterilisation are open on a voluntary basis to all citizens of India whether suffering from Leprosy or not. These facilities are available in Tripura also.

#### **Scarcity of Drinking Water in Tripura**

**2230. Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there has been a serious scarcity of drinking water in Kurti area (Dharmanagar Sub-Division), Tripura; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to remove this difficulty?

**The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar):** (a) There has been no serious scarcity of drinking water in Kurti area (Dharmanagar Sub-Division), Tripura.

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

#### **Import Licences for Gas Turbine Generating Units etc.**

**2231. Shri Rajagopala Rao:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for import licences of Gas Turbine generating units and Hydro and thermal units pending consideration before Government;

(b) capacity of each unit;

(c) degree and nature of foreign aid, if any, and details thereof;

(d) whether any application from Andhra Pradesh is pending consideration; and

(e) if so, whether Government consider it expeditious to grant licences to Andhra Pradesh in view of the power shortage there?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Six.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 58].

(d) No. However the Andhra Pradesh Government have asked for expeditious release of foreign exchange for their thermal power stations at Kothagudam and Ramagundam. Besides they have also approached Government of India for the import of two 15000 KW Gas Turbine Units. Formal applications for the release of foreign exchange have not yet been received.

(e) The position regarding the above cases is as follows:—

(i) *Kothagudam thermal power station (2 x 60 MW).*

The scheme has already been approved by the Planning Commission and has been posed for assistance from the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development/International Development Association. The Andhra Pradesh Government have been asked to invite global tenders for the plant and equipment and forward their recommendations for the release of specific foreign exchange and issue of import licence. The consulting engineers have already been appointed for the project. The foreign exchange involved in the import of plant and equipment is likely to be of the order of Rs. 7.6 crores. The power station is expected to be commissioned some time in 1965.

(ii) *Ramagundam thermal power station extension.*

It is proposed to instal one unit of 50/62.5 MW thermal plant as extension to the Ramagun-

dam thermal power station having an installed capacity of 37.5 MW (3 x 12.5 MW). The scheme has been posed for assistance from the Agency of International Development (U.S.A.) The tenders for appointment of consulting engineers have already been received and are under scrutiny. The tenders for the turbogenerator plant and auxiliaries have also been received. Orders will be placed as soon as clearance from the A.I.D. authorities has been received. The foreign exchange involved in this scheme is of the order of Rs. 4 crores. The station is expected to be commissioned by the end of 1964-65.

(iii) Requisition for installation of 2 gas turbine units of 15 MW each.

This scheme was not originally included in the III Plan. Owing to serious power shortage conditions in Andhra, this request is under active consideration of the Government of India. A proposal for the import of four units of 10 to 12 MW capacity gas turbine package type plants (skid-mounted) is presently being considered and if the prices and delivery are found suitable, and the requisite foreign exchange available, it might be possible to allot two sets to Andhra Pradesh. These units could be commissioned in about 9 to 12 months time. The foreign exchange required for each unit would be of the order of Rs. 50 lakhs.

#### A.R.T. Co's Colliery Workers

**2232. Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rice proportion in the supply of rations to the A.R.T.

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Co's colliery workers in Marg Berita, Assam is going to be increased;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) in view of eased rice position, whether Assam Government have agreed to this increase; and

(d) whether Government agree to reintroduce the old ratio of 75 per cent rice and 25 per cent *atta*?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh):** (a) to (d). In view of the present rice supply position in Assam, the State Government have decided not to enhance the quantum of rice ration from 50 per cent to 75 per cent of the total ration.

#### Electricity Rates

**2233. { Dr. Ranen Sen:  
Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:  
Dr. Saradish Roy:**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the old provisions of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 it was necessary for a licensee to obtain prior permission of the State Government before he could enhance rates duly approved by Government;

(b) whether the relevant provision [Vide Article 1 of the Sixth Schedule to the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948] had been amended by Central Government in 1956; no opposition from Government of West Bengal;

(c) whether under the amended provision it is no longer necessary for the licensee to obtain permission of State Government before enhancing or reducing the rates; and

(d) the reasons as to why Article 1 of the Sixth Schedule to the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 was amended in 1956?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan):** (a) No.