

**Rural Vidyalayas**

4747. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Late Moraji Desai had set up a network of rural vidyalayas;

(b) whether these are still functioning; and

(c) if so, the present status of these vidyalayas in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c): Information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the Sabha.

**India-Russia Tie-up in Power Sector**

4748. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be please to state:

(a) whether India and Russia have identified a number of areas for co-operation in the power sector;

(b) if so, the details of main areas which have been identified for cooperation;

(c) whether any agreement in this regard has been signed between the who countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which the Russia has agreed to provide renewable, energy to India?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d): Periodic meetings of the Indo-Russian Joint Working Group on Power and Non-conventional Energy Sources are held between the two countries under the Indo-Russian Joint Commission. During the Fourth Indo-Russian Working Group Meeting held in October, 1997, discussions were held on various issues such as coordination in sourcing the components and spare parts for already completed projects, greater participation by Russian Companies in new generation schemes and R&M schemes, cooperation in research and development activities and in the field on solar energy, wind energy, small hydro power, bio-mass power, alternate fuel for surface transport etc. A protocol has been signed between the two countries on 27.10.1997 for cooperation in the field of energy.

(e) In the area of small hydro power, private companies from both sides are already cooperating for supply of electro-mechanical equipment and joint implementation of projects. Both sides have also agreed to cooperate in the area of advanced biomass gassification, bio mass fuel based surface transport systems and electric vehicles.

**ASI Survey in Villages of Maharashtra**

4749. SHRI D.S. AHIRE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of villages in Maharashtra in which surveys have been conducted by the Archaeological Survey of India during the last three years; and

(b) the details of items found at these sites?

THE MINISTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) A statement is enclosed.

**Statement***Details of Villages Surveyed in Maharashtra by the Archaeological Survey of India in the last three years*

Sl. No.	Name of villages surveyed	District	Details of items found
1	2	3	4
1.	Pahur	Yavatmal	A Keshava temple, circa 12th century, A.D., decorated with carvings of a animals, mythical animals and 'dasavatara' panels and also a beautiful sculpture of Vishnu in the sanctum.
2.	Pimpal-khunta	Yavatmal	Some loose structural and architectural fragments circa 14th century A.D.
3.	Dabha	Yavatma	Remains of fortifications in the form of a mud bastion belonging to late medieval period (17th century A.D.).
4.	Betwad	Dhule	Copper plate of early Chalukyas, circa 7th cenury A.D., and historical pottery.