

(d) whether a small stretch of road measuring 18 kilometers from Vapi to Silvassa (D & NH) is in dilapidated condition and need immediate repair/relaying;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Central Government is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways, all other roads falling within the States/Union Territories are not responsibility of Central Government. However, Dadra and Nagar Haveli administration has reported that the Union Territory is well connected by roads and people have no difficulty in commuting within the territory.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) to (f) Dadra & Nagar Haveli administration have further intimated that a small stretch of 3.2 km. length which forms a part of road link for the Union Territory with Gujarat, is in a dilapidated condition. It is for the Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Government of Gujarat to sort out the matter for repair of the road.

Scheme Formulated for Sharing Power

3443. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme for sharing power by Northern States has been formulated or proposed to be formulated; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The Formula for sharing of power to various States including those in Northern Region from central generating power stations is given below :

1.0 Thermal and Nuclear Power Stations :

The following formula for sharing power from Central Sector thermal power stations was evolved in 1978 and the same is being generally followed :

- a. 10% of the power to be allocated to the State in which the Central thermal power plant is located (Home State).
- b. 75% of the power to be distributed among the States in the Region (including Home State) in accordance with the pattern of Central Plan assistance to the States in the Region and the energy consumption in the States of the Region for the previous five years. These two factors are given equal weightage. The

requirements of the Union Territories in the Region was to be met through appropriate allocations.

- c. 15% of the power to be kept unallocated at the disposal of the Central Government for meeting the urgent requirements of the individual states in the region from time to time.

2.0 Hydro Power Stations :

The formula for sharing from Central Sector Hydro Electric Power Stations was evolved in 1981 and modified in 1990. The formula revised in 1990 is now being generally used for sharing of power from Hydro Power Stations.

- a. 15% of the generation capacity to be kept as 'unallocated' at the disposal of the Central Government to be distributed within the region or outside, depending upon overall requirement.
- b. 12% of power from the energy generated by the power station to be supplied free of cost to those States of the Region (including the State where the hydro electric project is located), where distress like submergence, dislocation of population, etc. is caused due to setting up of the project at the specific site, the allocation being made in proportion to the extent of such distress. The energy generated figures for the purpose to be calculated at the bus bar level, i.e. after discounting auxiliary consumption but without taking into account the transmission line losses. For the purpose of allocation of 12% free power, the extent of distress caused would be assessed by the Central Electricity Authority in consultation with the concerned States.
- c. The remaining power (73%) to be distributed between States of the Region on the basis of the pattern of Central Plan assistance given to various States in the region during the previous 5 years and on the basis of consumption of electricity in the States of the region in the previous 5 years, the two factors to be given equal weightage.

[Translation]

Study of Weather

3444. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :
DR. ASHOK KUMAR PATEL :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to launch a satellite and a most sophisticated sea satellite to analyse and study the weather;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 (c) the stage at which the proposal stands at present ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The first indigenous satellite for oceanographic studies, Oceansat-1 (IRS-P4) has been developed by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and is to be launched by the indigenous Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV). The satellite will provide valuable data on the ocean, through two payloads namely, Ocean Colour Monitor (OCM) and Multi-frequency Scanning Microwave Radiometer (MSMR). These are useful for harnessing marine fishery resources, and deriving data on sea surface temperature, wind, atmospheric water vapour and cloud liquid water which contribute to better understanding of monsoon systems and formation of cyclones.

(c) The satellite is in advanced stage of development and the launch of this satellite is planned during early part of 1999.

Development of Bio-tech. Industry

3445. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are contemplating to take some action for the development of bio-tech industry;
 (b) if so, whether any steps have been taken in this regard;
 (c) if so, the details thereof; and
 (d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Under the liberalized Industrial licensing policy, licensing of all biotechnology activities is automatic for Indian Companies. These include activities relating to fermentation based production of drugs and pharmaceuticals, speciality chemicals, enzymes, bioactive molecules, biofertilizers, biopesticides, laboratory specialities etc. Hightech agricultural activities like production of hybrid high yielding seeds and tissue culture propagation of elite plants have been classified as industrial activities for attracting investment. Foreign collaboration up to 51% in equity is automatic; increase beyond 51% foreign equity is examined on merit. Genetically modified organisms have been put under scrutiny both under I (D&R) Act as well as under the Environment Protection Act to enable their commercial approval and adoption, after environmental safety is ascertained, and after the applicants have complied with recombinant DNA biosafety guidelines. Biotechnology activities have been classified to attract advantages under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) scheme. Applicants setting

up tissue culture based production units under 100% Export Oriented Units (EOU) or putting up units in Export Promotion Zones (EPZ) are required to ensure 60% value addition. Rationalization of Customs Duty & Excise Duty on the raw materials and finished products is made to provide Indian entrepreneurs equal level playing ground with the imported products.

[English]

Cases Filed Under MRTP Act

3446. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA MALLICK : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases filed under the Monopolies & Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 during each of the last two years;

(b) the number of companies out of them against whom action have been taken so far; and

(c) the number of persons who have got compensation through the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 and the amount of compensation given to each of them ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) 1490 and 1596 enquiries including Injunction Applications u/s 12A and Compensation Applications u/s 12B of the MRTP Act were instituted/registered in 1996 and 1997 respectively. The MRTP Commission does not make any distinction between the companies and other entities in respect of the proceedings before it. 370 and 604 cases were disposed of during the years 1996 and 1997.

(c) The number of Compensation Applications disposed of during 1996 and 1997 were 61 and 220 respectively. The MRTP Commission does not maintain the information in respect of execution of its orders. Such orders are executed by competent Courts.

Mormugao Port Trust

3447. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state .

(a) whether there is any proposal to streamline the functioning of the Mormugao Port Trust; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) There is no separate proposal for streamlining the functioning of the Mormugao Port Trust. However, in order to make the Port Trusts' function more effective and efficient,