

(c) The information is being collected from the field units and will be placed on the table of the House.

(d) Telephone connections provided during 1996-97 and target fixed for 1997-98 are as per the Statement II enclosed.

Statement - I

| Sl. No. | Name of Districts | Waiting List as on 31.7.97 |
|---------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. | Sonepat | 5,477 |
| 2. | Jind | 2,086 |
| 3. | Rewari | 3,379 |
| 4. | Mohindergarh | 1,642 |
| 5. | Ambala | 5,106 |
| 6. | Yamunanagar | 4,131 |
| 7. | Panchkula | 1,844 |
| 8. | Karnal | 9,271 |
| 9. | Panipat | 7,954 |
| 10. | Kaithal | 4,074 |
| 11. | Kurukshetra | 7,156 |
| 12. | Rohtak | 3,119 |
| 13. | Bhiwani | 3,902 |
| 14. | Faridabad | 17,110 |
| 15. | Gurgaon | 13,163 |
| 16. | Hissar | 6,010 |
| 17. | Sirsa | 4,807 |

Statement - II

| Sl. No. | Name of Districts | Telephone Provided Connections During 1996-97 | Target for Telephone Connections for 1997-98 |
|---------|-------------------|---|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Sonepat | 4,310 | 4,700 |
| 2. | Jind | 1,788 | 1,900 |
| 3. | Rewari | 411 | 1,500 |
| 4. | Mohindergarh | 201 | 1,000 |
| 5. | Ambala | 7,100 | 5,000 |
| 6. | Yamunanagar | 4,050 | 3,000 |
| 7. | Panchkula | 185 | 1,900 |
| 8. | Karnal | 3,247 | 4,500 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|-------------|-------|--------|
| 9. | Panipat | 3,808 | 4,500 |
| 10. | Kaithal | 1,600 | 3,300 |
| 11. | Kurukshetra | 3,845 | 4,000 |
| 12. | Rohtak | 4,594 | 4,000 |
| 13. | Bhiwani | 3,913 | 2,800 |
| 14. | Faridabad | 5,359 | 13,000 |
| 15. | Gurgaon | 7,589 | 6,000 |
| 16. | Hissar | 4,618 | 7,000 |
| 17. | Sirsa | 4,182 | 4,900 |

[English]

Transit Facilities

3752. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of various irregularities being practiced and rampant corruption prevalent in Retiring Rooms, Guest Houses for transit facilities for the tourists at various locations;

(b) if so, the steps taken for upgrading these facilities and operating them efficiently;

(c) whether the Government are considering upward revision of rates for Railways accommodation for passengers/tourists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) A few complaints have been received about Retiring Rooms, Guest Houses are not available on Railways.

(b) The functioning of Retiring Rooms at stations are closely monitored. The facilities available in Retiring Rooms are improved from time to time by ensuring proper maintenance, replacement of old furniture by new ones in phased manner, supply of clean and good quality of linen etc.

(c) and (d) The charges of Retiring Rooms are revised periodically.

Acute Power Shortage in Kerala

3753. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :
SHRI K.V. SURENDRA NATH :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Kerala is facing acute power shortage and solely depending upon hydro electric projects;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the 'Naphtha' allotted to Kerala is insufficient to meet the fuel requirements of thermal projects;

(c) whether the Government consider to enhance the Naphtha allotment;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government consider to enhance the allotment of diesel to Brahmpuram Power Project; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The power supply position in Kerala during April to July, 1997, is given below :

| Energy | April, 97-July, 97 |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Requirement | 3775 MU |
| Availability | 2749 MU |
| Shortage | 1026 MU |
| % Shortage | 27.2% |

Kerala's generation is hydro based and due to delayed monsoon this year, there was steep decline in the state's hydro generation. Keeping in view the acute power shortage in the state, the Government of India increased the allocation from 30% to 50% w.e.f. 12-6-1997 and further 50% to 65% w.e.f. 1-7-1997 from the unallocated Central quota. The State has also share of 414.5 MW power from the Central sector generating stations in the Southern region.

(b) to (d) The request of Government of Kerala for enhancing the naphtha allocation is under examination.

(e) and (f) Fuel linkage for Brahmapuram diesel power plant of Kerala has been issued on 17-7-1997.

Joint Venture for Finance

3754. SHRI L. RAMANA :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether NTPC propose to enter into joint venture with Haryana Electricity Board to promote two major power projects at Faridabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this is the first projects likely to be developed by NTPC in conjugation with State;

(d) if so, the capacity of the present project and projects

likely to be taken up in future;

(e) whether more projects are likely to be entered into with States especially Andhra Pradesh by NTPC; and

(f) the extent of such joint ventures are likely to help the speedy execution of power projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) Government of India have accorded investment approval to set up Faridabad Gas Power Project in a capacity range of 330 to 430 MW in Haryana by National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) at an estimated cost of Rs. 1163.60 crores. The ultimate responsibility for implementing the project will be entrusted to a subsidiary company by NTPC in which Haryana/HSEB is expected to have a share holding.

(e) and (f) Investment approval has also been accorded for the setting up the Simhadri Thermal Power Project (1000 MW) in Vishakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh by NTPC. This project will also be implemented by a subsidiary company of NTPC with a share holding by Government of Andhra Pradesh/APSEB. It is expected that such collaborative efforts between NTRC and the State Governments/their SEBs will help in adding greater new generating capacity in the country.

[Translation]

Reserved Quota for Berths and Seats

3755. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any reserved quota for berths and seats from Botad and Dhola junction railway stations of Bhavnagar district for Mumbai and Delhi;

(b) if so, the reserved quota of berths and seats from the above stations;

(c) whether the reserved quota of berths and seats is very less; and

(d) if so, the time by which the quota of berths and seats is likely to be increased?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (d) The reservation quotas available at Botad and Dhola for Mumbai and Delhi by various trains are as under:

| Train No. | Class | Botad | Dhola |
|-----------|----------|-------|-------|
| 2902 | Sleeper | 1 | - |
| 9006 | Sleeper | 6 | 2 |
| 9108 | Sleeper | 3 | - |
| 9102 | 2nd Seat | - | 4 |
| 2934 | 2nd Seat | 2 | - |
| 9105 | Sleeper | 2 | - |
| 2916 | Sleeper | 2 | - |