

information, there were 75 incidents of explosions and 67 incidents of firing between the militants and the security forces during the period after elections till 31 October, 1996.

(b) 332 civilians and 63 Security Force personnel were killed in incidents of terrorist violence in Jammu and Kashmir during the period from 1.8.96 to 31.10.96.

(c) 350 militants were killed and 494 were apprehended during this period.

(d) The Union Government have been consistently taking all necessary measures to assist the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to bring about normalcy in the State. These *inter-alia* include deployment of Central Security Forces to aid and assist the State Government in the maintenance of law and order and internal security; provision of financial assistance to enable acceleration of economic and developmental activities in the State, including assistance to meet the extra expenditure of the State Government on security related matters; assistance in the creation of employment opportunities for the youth in the State; ensuring adequate and timely supply of essential commodities; maintenance and upgradation of communications; expansion of electronic media facilities, etc. The Government has also announced an economic package for the State including extension of the Railway line to Baramulla as a National Project, additional financial assistance to bridge the non plan resource gap, a debt relief scheme for small ventures, upgradation of Kargil Airfield and provision of weekly helicopter service to Kargil, and expeditious implementation of the Dul-Hasti power project in District Doda, etc.

(e) The Government is committed to maximum autonomy for the State of Jammu and Kashmir. However, it is not possible/feasible to give details about the same at this stage.

Employees of Rural Development Agencies

*2. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the manner in which the terms and service conditions of the employees working in the rural development agencies in various States have been fixed;

(b) whether the Union Government have issued any guidelines in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) :
(a) to (c). The District Rural Development Agencies are registered societies under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. The DRDAs have their own by-laws for

governance of the Society. The employees recruited by such agencies are the employees of the Society. Therefore, the Union Government have not issued any guidelines regarding the terms and conditions of the employees working in the DRDAs.

State Electricity Boards

3. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether many State Electricity Boards have suffered huge losses during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of last three years;

(c) whether the huge losses of State Electricity Boards and continuous power shortages in the country has deterred private participation and has also failed to attract foreign investment and technology in the power sector;

(d) if so, the steps contemplated to restructure State Electricity Boards to make them run efficiently;

(e) whether the Government have formulated any action plan to improve the power situation; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Many State Electricity Boards have suffered huge losses during the last 3 years.

(b) The details of the losses during 1992-93 to 1994-95 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Despite substantial interest evinced by both domestic and foreign investors, poor financial health of the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) is one of the reasons affecting finalisation of security packages for some private sector power projects.

(d) Government has drawn the attention of the States towards the need to improve the performance of SEBs and the options available for restructuring and reform of SEBs. Orissa is the first State which has undergone a restructuring exercise and other State like UP, Haryana, Rajasthan, Bihar, AP, Karnataka, Kerala etc. have shown interest in restructuring.

(e) and (f). Ministry of Power has drafted an Action Plan which, inter alia, emphasises higher allocation for early completion of public sector projects, expeditious completion of Public and Private Sector on-going schemes, renovation and modernisation of power plants in a time bound manner, encouragement of captive/co-generation, private sector participation in distributor and restructuring and reforms of SEBs.