

and 1967, respectively. Since the natural pearl oyster beds were poor in pearl oyster stocks, this fishery has not been allowed in subsequent years.

(c) The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) under the Ministry of Agriculture has developed a package of technologies for producing pearls in offshore floating rafts and onshore tanks using the ability of the oysters to produce pearls in their body. In order to replenish the natural pearl oyster stocks in the Gulf of Mannar, the CMFRI has launched a sea ranching programme since early 1990's, by introducing larvae' spat of pearl oysters produced in the CMFRI hatchery at Tuticorin.

(d) Question does not arise.

Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises

123. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the target of providing assistance and training to persons during 1995-96 and 1996-97 under the Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME) and the actual achievement thereof; and

(b) the reasons for the shortfall in achieving the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) The details of targets and achievements of persons assisted under SUME during 1995-96 and 1996-97 are given as under:-

Year	No. of Beneficiaries assisted to set up micro units.		No. of persons trained/undergoing training	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1995-96	1,16,807	1,25,308	40,042	42,436
1996-97	87,120	1,28,899	29,852	45,587

(b) There is no shortfall in the achievement of targets.

[Translation]

HUDCO Loan to UP

124. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the HUDCO has reviewed or propose to review the works started with the loan extended by it in various area in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the quantum of loans provided by the HUDCO to the Ghaziabad Development Authority/Bulandshahar-Khurja Development Authority/Greater Noida and Noida and the Uttar Pradesh Housing and Development Board for construction of houses during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Review of schemes financed by HUDCO is a continuous process. Borrowing Agencies are supposed to send quarterly reports in respect of schemes undertaken by them with HUDCO's loan assistance. Drawal of HUDCO loan is linked to physical/ financial progress reported by the borrowing agencies. The Regional Office reviews the works started by the different agencies from time to time through interaction with the agencies. The projects are also inspected as per pre-determined schedule at the time of sanction of scheme.

(c) The information is given in the attached statement.

Statement

Quantum of loans provided by HUDCO during the last three years to various agencies in Uttar Pradesh

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Agency	Loan Amount sanctioned		
		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Uttar Pradesh Housing & Development Board.	2110.28	1228.70	1310.74
2.	Ghaziabad Development Authority.	Nil*	Nil*	Nil*

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Bulandshahar-Khurja Development Authority	140.26	#	#
4.	Greater Noida	-	-	1441.33
5.	Noida	-	-	-

* No loan has been sanctioned because the agency is defaulting in loan repayment since 1993.

No loan sanctioned because the agency is in default since 1994.

[English]

Indo-Sri Lanka Relations

125. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Indo-Sri Lanka bilateral agreement has been signed to improve relation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government further to improve its relation with Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA): (a) and (b) During 1997, an agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investments was signed between the two countries at the Third Session of the Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Commission held in Colombo from January 19-22, 1997. This Agreement provides a legal framework for facilitating greater flow of investments between the two countries and contains provisions relating to national and Most Favoured nation (MFN) treatment, compensation for losses, repatriation of investments and settlement of disputes. During the same meeting, an agreement was also signed to release the second tranche of US \$ 15 million of the line of credit extended to Sri Lanka in January, 1996. This credit would be available to Sri Lanka for import of both goods and services from India.

(c) Also during the same meeting, the two countries signed a Cultural Exchange Programme for the years 1996, 1997 and 1998 and a programme of cooperation in the field of science and technology. Government have announced an assistance of Rs. 5 crores for the relief and rehabilitation programme in Jaffna. High-level interactions have been held during the visit of the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister to India in April 1997 as the special envoy of the Sri Lankan President and at the SAARC Summit in Male in May, 1997.

Powers Generation

126. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed and achievement made regarding power generation during the Eighth Five Year Plan and the proposed target of the Ninth Plan set by the Planning Commission's Working Group;

(b) the reasons for failure to achieve the target during the Eighth Plan and efforts proposed to be made to remove the causes during the Ninth Plan;

(c) whether the Planning Commission has urged the Working Group to scale down the target to the "realistic" level; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOR): (a) As per the Eighth Plan Document, the energy generation in the terminal year of Eighth Plan i.e. 1996-97 was projected as 418-21 Billion Units from utilities for which a capacity addition target of 30,538 MW was fixed. As against this the achievement in capacity addition was 16,422.6 MW. The generation during 1996-97 was 394.5 Billion Units. The Working Group on Power set up by the Planning Commission for 9th Plan has assessed a capacity addition requirement of 57734.7 MW during the period 1997-2002.

(b) The main reasons for shortfall in capacity addition during Eighth Plan are deficiency in project management, problem related to externally aided projects, law and order problems, paucity of funds and delay in supply of equipment etc. To remove the causes the proposed approach for the Ninth Plan would be as under.

(i) The State and the Central Utilities will ensure speedy completion of the ongoing and approved power projects and also take steps for new projects.

(ii) These efforts will be supplemented by new projects in the private sector; transparency in selection of private parties and speedy decision making will be ensured for enlisting private sector participation in a significant manner.

(iii) As the share of hydel power is declining over the years, adequate outlays will be provided for this sector for completion of ongoing projects within the shortest possible time. A cost-benefit analysis of the relative advantages of mega projects versus small projects will be made and the environmental considerations addressed to adequately in selection of new projects. Provision of fiscal incentives and concessions for enlisting the private sector for hydro projects will be considered. The State Governments will also ensure full investigation of hydro projects