

CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No proposal for setting up of a gas-based power project envisaging utilisation of gas from HBJ pipeline in the State of Madhya Pradesh has been given clearance by the Central Electricity Authority.

(b) Does not arise.

Losses by Electricity Boards

2885. SHRISHRAVANKUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study conducted by P.H.D. Chamber of Commerce and Industry has revealed that overall percentage of losses between 1981 and 1989 suffered by nine Electricity Boards had increased despite frequent hikes in tariffs;

(b) the main causes of such losses; and

(c) the steps suggested to avert such losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the study, the main causes of losses relate to management of:

- (1) Human resources sphere;
- (2) Accounts, Finance and Commercial sphere;
- (3) Technical sphere covering, generation, transmission and distribution systems.

(c) No steps for averting such losses have been suggested in the report which

is said to be the first part of the study.

[*Translation*]

Operation of Cable TV Network

2886. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5615 on September 4, 1991 and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMAR GIRI JAYAS):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Establishment of Cable TV Networks in the country is governed by Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and Rules made thereunder, administered by the Ministry of Communications. As per this Act and Rules made thereunder, no permission is required to set up a Cable TV network within private premises. According to the information received from the Ministry of Communications, no license for Cable TV network including permission to lay cable for TV networks are being issued by them. The details of such networks operating in the country including those set-up by foreign companies are, therefore, not available with the Government.

Arrears of DESU with Commercial Firms and Industries

2887. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of commercial firms/

industries in Delhi against whom electricity dues amounting to lakhs of rupees are outstanding;

(b) the steps taken to realise the dues; and

(c) if no steps have been taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALPNATHRAI): (a) to (c). According to DESU, there are about 970 Commercial firms/industries, including other categories of consumers against whom electricity dues of more than Rs. 1 lakh is outstanding in each case. Steps taken by DESU to recover these dues include issue of notices, disconnection of power supply and legal action where necessary.

Opening of Post Offices and Sub-Post Offices In Maharashtra

2888. SHRIVILASRAONAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices and sub-post offices functioning at present in Maharashtra and the number of new post offices and sub-post offices proposed to be opened during the year 1991-92;

(b) the allocation made in the budget in this regard; and

(c) the details of the work done and the amount spent so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) There are 11,979 post offices including 61 Head post offices, 2,054 departmental sub post offices, 129 extra departmental sub post offices and

9, 735 extra departmental branch post offices functioning in Maharashtra at present. It is proposed to open, subject to justification, 150 extra departmental branch post offices and 20 departmental sub post offices in Maharashtra State during the year 1991-92.

(b) and (c). There is a total provision amounting to Rs. 2 crore 72 lakhs in the Budget estimates for the year 1991-92 in respect of opening of post offices in rural and tribal areas on all India basis. Necessary funds will be made available to Maharashtra Postal Circle as per their demand. An amount of Rs. 2.03 lakhs has been spent upto 31-10-91 on opening of post offices in rural and tribal areas in Maharashtra.

[English]

Outstanding Dues by SEBs to Power Generating Agencies

2889. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of outstanding dues by SEBs to the power generating agencies as on 30th September, 1991;

(b) whether the Government has asked States to clear the same in four equal instalments; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Statement giving state-wise details of outstanding dues payable by the SEBs to the National Thermal Power Corporation, National Hydro-electric Power Corporation, North-Eastern Electric Power Corporation and Damodar Valley Corporation as on 30.9.1991. is enclosed.