

Joint Venture by Indian Iron and Steel Company

1929. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to have joint venture with Swaraj Paul in managing Indian Iron and Steel Company; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has engaged SBI Capital Markets Limited (SBI-CAP) as professional consultants to fully explore and advise on the possibilities of private participation in Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited (IISCO). SBI-CAP is now in touch with the possible private investors, both Indian/Non-Resident Indian and overseas. The London-based Caparo Group Limited (with which Shri Swaraj Paul, an Non-Resident Indian, is associated), which has evinced interest in IISCO, is one such possible participant. SAIL is expected to receive the SBI-CAP report during this month (March, 1992); Government will be taking an appropriate view in this regard after examining the report.

[Translation]

Pilferage of Electricity

1930. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Co-operative Housing Societies located in Mayur Vihar and Patparganj against whom the cases of pilferage of electricity came to light and the number of such societies against whom fines have been imposed and the number of societies from

whom amount of fine could not be recovered so far by the Delhi electric Supply Undertaking;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to check the pilferage of electricity in those areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). 16 cases of theft of electricity by the Co-operative Group Housing societies located in Mayur Vihar and Patparganj areas were detected during the raids conducted by DESU in August/September, 1991. Necessary assessment bills for consumption of electricity/misuse charges have already been issued in 13 cases. Similar action in respect of the remaining three Societies and to effect the requisite recoveries is in progress. DESU has intensified its drive against the theft of power and periodic raids are conducted to check this problem. Theft of power is a cognizable offence under the Indian Electricity Act, 1910.

[English]

Telecast of Film "The Killing Fields"

1931. SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI:
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:
DR. R. MALLU:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a film entitled "The Killing Fields" on the effect of increasing use of pesticides on human health and ecology made by PTI-TV was slated to be telecast in September-October, 1991

(b) if so, why the film was not telecast; and

(c) by when it is proposed to be telecast on TV?

THE DEPUTY MINISTRY IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJA VYAS) a) to (c) Telecast of a documentary film 'The Killing Fields' supplied by the Voluntary Health Association of India, New Delhi was scheduled by Doordarshan on 12 09 91 and 31 12 91. However, the film could not telecast as the copyright holder's status and the terms for payment of royalty etc. were not clear. The telecast of this film after completing the necessary formalities is, however, dependent on the programme requirement of Doordarshan.

Drip Irrigation System

1932 SHRI M V V S MURTHY Will the Minister OF WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have given subsidy to the various States to the extent of fifty percent of the cost of drip irrigation system,

(b) if so, the details of the funds provided to various States State wise,

(c) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has not been placed at par with Maharashtra, and

(d) if so the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) To promote drip irrigation system, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Encouraging use of Sprinkler/ Drip system etc. subsidy is given at the rate of 25% for small farmers, 33-1/3% for marginal farmers and 50% for scheduled caste and tribal farmers belonging to the small and marginal category and also for cooperative/ community schemes of such farmers subject to the maximum cost limit of Rs. 40,000/- Under the Central Sector Scheme of Integrated Development of Arid zone Fruits, the subsidy for installation of drip irrigation is given at the rate of 50% subject to the upper ceiling limits ranging from Rs. 15,000 for an area of 0.4 hectare to Rs. 60,000/- for an area of 4 hectares.

(b) The Statement is attached

(c) and (d) The allocation of funds to the States/Union Territories under the above schemes is not made in equal proportion and depends upon the proposals received from them for financial assistance for Drip Irrigation under Central Schemes keeping in view the rates of subsidy for small, marginal and other farmers, importance of the scheme to a particular State, stage of preparedness, availability of infrastructure and capacity of the State Government to utilise the funds by providing matching allocations in the State Budget.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in lakhs)

S No	Name of State	Amount approved/ allocated during 1991-92	Amount released during 1991-92 till Jan 1992
1	Andhra Pradesh	110.86	20.00
2	Chunachal Pradesh	8.12	1.00