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) The total potential for hydel power in the Eastern area, i.e., Eastern and North Eastern Regions, is 37447 MW at 60% load factor out of which 1232.67 MW (3.3%) has been developed and 1021.56 MW (2.7%) is under development.

(b) The level of utilisation of hydro potential is low especially in the North Eastern Region, due to low demand, power evacuation difficulties, opposition of some States to large hydro projects, law and order difficulties, inter-state aspects and environment and forest clearance problems.

(c) Some of the special measures taken by the Government towards harnessing the hydro potential are modification in the financial, administrative and legal procedures to attract private investment, creation of central/joint sector corporations, increase in outlay for development of hydro projects, increase in budgetary allocation for central/joint sector projects and arranging funds for hydel projects through external assistance.

[English]

Crude Oil

867 SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of crude oil being produced presently in the country,

(b) the production of crude oil likely to be achieved during the year 1996-97, and

(c) the locations where exploration of crude oil is being conducted at present in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The crude oil production during 1995-96 was 35 19 MMT The production is expected to be around 36 MMT during 1996-97.

(c) The exploration for hydrocarbons is being carried out in the following areas —

- West Coast Offshore including Gulf of Kutch, Deep Waters of Kerala-Konkan.
- East Coast Offshore
- Coastal areas of A P from Kakinada in the north to Nizamapatnam in the South
- Cauvery basin in Tamil Nadu including Union Territory of Pondicherry.
- Areas in Upper Assam, North Bank of Brahmaputra, Dhansiri Valley and Cachar in North East.
- West Bengal, Tripura, Bihar, Cambay Basin in Gujarat.
- Himalayan Foothills in H.P. and J and K.
- Vindhyans/Gondwanas in M.P.
- Rajasthan.
- Saurashtra Offshore.
- Ganga Valley in U.P.

[Translation]

Demand and Supply of Power

868. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the position regarding supply and generation of power at the time of peak demand period during the last one year till June, 1996 in the country, State-wise;

(b) the present power-generation capacity of N.T.P.C. and other power-generating plants (Private and under Union Government) in the country, State-wise;

(c) the measures being taken to generate power to meet its demand in the country;

(d) the number of times the Madhya Pradesh Government have made a demand for installation of a gas based power plant in Madhya Pradesh; and

(e) the time by when the decision is likely to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

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) State-wise peak demand, peak met and the deficit in the country during July, 1995 to June, 1996 is given in the attached Statement - I.

(b) State-wise power generation capacity in the Central, State and Private Sectors in the country as on 31.03.96 is given in the attached Statement - II.

(c) Amongst the measures undertaken for increasing power generation are higher utilisation of installed capacity, monitoring the supply of proper quality and quantity of coal for thermal stations and modernisation and uprating of existing power stations. Besides, initiating schemes for reducing transmission and distribution losses, steps have also been undertaken for speedier implementation of ongoing projects in the public sector both at the Central and State levels. Participation of private sector is also being encouraged.

(d) and (e). Madhya Pradesh has submitted the following schemes for gas based power plants for techno-economic appraisal by Central Electricity