

Kashmir than what it is now in the Constitution of India;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Jammu and Kashmir Government has made any specific proposal in this regard till now; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (d) The Government is committed to grant maximum autonomy to the State of J&K within the framework of the Constitution of India. The State Government have set up a Committee to examine the issues relating to autonomy in J&K. No report/proposal has been received in this regard so far.

Employment Schemes in Assam

671. DR. ARUN KUMAR SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of ongoing employment schemes in the urban areas of Assam;
- (b) the total number of mandays created in the urban areas of the State in each district till now; and
- (c) the total amount provided to the State Government during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Two Centrally sponsored urban employment schemes, namely, Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP) are being implemented in Assam.

(b) The scheme of Nehru Rozgar Yojana is monitored by the Central Government at the State level and not at District level. A total of 7.48 lakhs mandays of work have been generated under the scheme upto 31.01.1997.

There is no specific component of wage employment under the PMIUPEP.

(c) The total amount provided to the State Government under Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP) during the last three years is as under:-

S.No.	Scheme	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)		
		Year		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	NRY	89.49	184.72	147.20
2.	PMIUPEP	—	—	265.94

(The PMIUPEP has been launched in 1995-96).

Water Scarcity

672. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the small and medium towns facing severe scarcity of water in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) whether the State Government have submitted any scheme in this regard to the Union Government and have sought funds to ensure supply of clean drinking water in these towns; and
- (c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has reported that there are 641 small and medium towns in the State and most of them have shortage of drinking water.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh have sent 71 schemes under the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) for providing water supply to towns having population less than 20,000 (as per 1991 census). The scheme provides for sharing the cost of scheme by Central and the State Government in the ratio of 50:50. Out of these, 69 schemes have been sanctioned so far at a total project cost of Rs. 5,858.67 lakhs against the notional share of Rs. 1,756.19 lakhs earmarked for the State of Uttar Pradesh in the 8th Five Year Plan period.

Apart from the above, proposal for augmenting water supply facilities in respect of U.P. hill towns at the project cost of Rs. 4,533 lakhs was also received for grant of assistance by the 10th Finance Commission. The same have been technically examined and recommended by this Ministry for financial assistance to the Ministry of Finance as per the recommendation of the 10th Finance Commission which have since been approved.

[Translation]

Employment Scheme for Rural Youths

673. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI ANANT GUDHE:

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

(a) whether the Union Government propose to formulate any scheme for creating employment for the educated unemployed male and female youths;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the criterion fixed in this regard;

(c) the number of employment programmes run by the Government during the last three years;

(d) the target fixed by the Government for self employment during 1997-98; and

(e) the investment proposed for employment generation during 1996-97 and next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) and (b) There is no separate programme for educated unemployed male and female youths being implemented by the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment. However, trained educated unemployed rural youth belonging to Below Poverty Line families and having read upto 8th Standard (pass or fail) are entitled to get Governmental subsidy to the extent of Rs. 7500/- or 50% of the project cost, whichever is less, under the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP).

(c) The major self-employment programme implemented by this Ministry is IRDP which has two sub-programmes of TRYSEM and Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas. Under TRYSEM, rural youth belonging to below poverty line families are given technical and vocational training for skill upgradation, so that they could seek self-employment or wage employment. Under DWCRA, groups of rural poor women comprising of 10-15 members are provided with a revolving fund assistance of Rs. 25,000/- for carrying out any viable economic activity of their choice.

(d) and (e) The Statement indicating targets proposed for self-employment programmes for 1997-98 and investment anticipated for 1996-97 is at given in one enclosed Statement. Since the allocation for 1998-99 onwards have not been fixed, the investment cannot be anticipated for the next three years at this juncture.

Statement

	Anticipated Investment			Target 1997-98	
	1996-97			Physical (Nos. in lakh)	Financial Centre+State
	Subsidy (Centre + State)	Credit	Total		
IRDP	1069.00	2142.20	3211.20	*	1135.36
TRYSEM					
(a) Recurring	70.50	—	—	*	90.00
(b) Infrastructure	28.00	—	—	*	28.00
DWCRA	75.00	—	—	0.30 (Groups)	102.80

*No physical targets are fixed under IRDP and Trysem.

[English]

Electricity Amendment Act

674. LT. GEN. SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI:
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Indian Electricity Act to facilitate the private investment in power transmission;

(b) if so, the other details of amendments proposed to be made;

(c) whether the State Governments are proposed

to be consulted before introducing the legislation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the legislation is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) The Electricity Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997 has been promulgated on 24.1.1997. The amendments recognise 'transmission' as an activity distinct from generation and distribution and provide for issue of transmission licenses by the Central and State Governments for inter-State and intra-State transmission of Power.

(c) and (d) Electricity being a concurrent subject, the Parliament can enact such legislation. The object of the amendments is to provide an enabling legal framework for recognising transmission as an independent activity so that private investment could be mobilised for the transmission projects. Therefore, the amendments would be in the