

[Translation]

Indira Awas Yojana in M.P.

2611. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families living below poverty line in the rural areas of Madhya Pradesh who have no houses or land to construct houses as per the last survey;

(b) the number of persons who have lands but needs assistance to construct houses;

(c) the criteria being followed for selection of beneficiaries in the State;

(d) the Central assistance provided under Indira Awas Yojana to Madhya Pradesh during 1997-98 so far;

(e) whether the Madhya Pradesh Government has sought increase in the Central Assistance under the said scheme; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) The Central Assistance provided under Indira Awas Yojana to Madhya Pradesh so far during 1997-98 is around Rs. 39 crore.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The Union Government has provided Additional Central Assistance to the tune of Rs. 4 crores for earthquake affected victims of Jabalpur District.

[English]

Loss in NHPC

2612. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Idle Chamera unit causes Rs. 100 crore loss to NHPC" appearing in the *Hindustan Times* dated 13.7.1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether a number of equipments/machines imported/locally purchased are not operative and the detailed estimated loss in this account and steps taken in this regard; and

(d) the present status of investigations into reported irregularities committed in purchase of high valued equipment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) : Yes Sir. The news item mentions about the outage of the Unit-2 of Chamera Hydro-electric Project Stage-I and about faulty construction of the tunnel carrying water to the generating units. The facts are as follows :

All the units of Chamera Project were running satisfactorily since commissioning in April 1994 and no major problems relating to turbine and generators were experienced. However, operational problem with generating Unit-2 are being experienced since June 1996 when the load on the machine exceeds 90 MW.

Experts from GE Canada and GEC Alstom and M/s. SNC/Acres were deputed to look into the problems and set right the machines from time to time. Experts from BHEL have been assisting on project authorities in resolving the problem. A team of experts comprising representative from Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Central Water Commission (CWC) and Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board (UPSEB) was constituted by National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) to look into the problem and to make recommendations for improved performance. The committee's recommendations for rectification of Unit-2 are in line with the action being taken. Further investigations and assessments would be continued to ascertain the cause of trouble in Unit-2 during lean season of October-April when the system will permit such assessments.

(c) There were no unusual problems with any of the except the break down of a unit of GIS switchgear and the radial gates anchoring system which have been rectified/replaced. The Head Race Tunnel (H.R.T) of 6.4 k.m was constructed by Indian contractors. It is not true to say that the generating units are hit by boulders. A concrete piece was found wedged before entrance to turbine on two occasions and this is not indicative of defect or danger to the HRT. This phenomenon is also neither uncommon nor unusual and in a similar manner concrete pieces were found in the case of some other projects which were completed more than a decade back and the tunnels are intact. It is not true that NHPC suffered a revenue loss of about Rs. 100 crores on account of problems in generating unit-2 in the last one year. The design energy of station is 1664 Million Units (MUs). The target of annual generating fixed by the CEA was 1700 MUs. The actual generation from Chamera Stage-I in 1996-97 was 1884 MUs. The excess generation from Chamera Stage-I over the design energy and annual target is 220 MUs and 184 MUs respectively.

(d) The turbines and generators of Chamera-I Project were procured from M/s. Marine Industries Ltd. and