

(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

interest of both Central and State Governments who have the responsibility for ensuring that inter-state and intra-state transmission.

(e) A Bill is being introduced in the current session of the Parliament to replace the Ordinance.

[Translation]

Clearance to Power Projects

675. SHRI BUDHSEN PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have announced that the power projects up to a specific MW power generating capacity need not require clearance from the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of such projects have been cleared during the last six months; and

(d) the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) (a) and (b) Schemes for generating station prepared by a Generating Company selected on MoU/Lol basis costing upto Rs. 100 crores, and selected through a process of competitive bidding costing upto Rs. 1,000 crores are not required to be submitted to the Central Electricity Authority for Techno-economic clearance.

(c) and (d) The Central Government does not monitor clearance of these schemes on a regular basis now as they fall within the purview of the powers of the State Governments.

[English]

Central Assistance for Damaged Houses

676. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV:
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) The total amount of Special Central Assistance sanctioned for construction of houses fully damaged by flood/cyclone/hurricane in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil nadu and Kerala and Orissa during the year 1995-96 and upto December 31, 1996; and

(b) the check exercised by the Central Government to ensure that the special assistance is properly utilised for the purpose it was sanctioned?

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) In addition to normal allocation from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), the following additional assistances has been provided from the

National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) in the wake of cyclone and floods during 1995-96 and 1996-97 for relief and rehabilitation measures, including the housing sector:—

State	1995-96	1996-97 (Rs. in crores)
Andhra Pradesh	21.00	142.00
Kerala	—	—
Orissa	30.75	—
Tamil Nadu	—	—

(b) Government of India have fixed the items and norms of assistances from the CRF/NFCR in the wake of natural calamities, including assistance for damaged houses. The Accountant Generals ensure that only expenditure on approved items is permitted.

Awareness Programme for LPG Consumers

677. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:
KUMARI UMA BHARATI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to launch an awareness programme to educate the LPG consumers on safety aspects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the programme is likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Safety education is an ongoing and a very important activity of Public Sector Oil Companies. Oil Companies conduct LPG customer education programmes for LPG consumers such as customer safety clinic, seminar on safety, face to face sessions, call on customers etc., for highlighting the safety aspects of handling of LPG. Oil Industry has already launched a campaign in Northern Region to educate the LPG consumers on the aspects of conservation and safety through various media like TV, Print Media etc., from December 1996 onwards. This campaign will continue till February 1997 end.

Power Generation Through Atomic Energy

678. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for power generation through Atomic Energy during the Eighth Plan;

(b) the actual achievement made in this regard;

(c) whether there is any shortfall in the production;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of the projection for the 9th Five Year Plan?