

additional allocation of fuel for various power projects in Kerala; and

(b) if so, details thereof and the allocation made, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) According to the detailed guidelines issued by the Ministry of Power under the Liquid Fuel Policy for Power Projects, the State Governments are required to recommend liquid fuel linkage for power projects within the capacity (in MW) allocation to the respective States, to the Ministry of Power. On receipt of the recommendation of the Ministry of Power for fuel linkages for the power projects in Kerala within the capacity allocated to the State, fuel linkages will be given by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. Proposals from Kerala have not been received in this Ministry so far.

Economic Package

2723. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH
GAEKWAD :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the course of his recent tour of Jammu areas, the Prime Minister announced an economic package for the State of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the amount sanctioned, sector-wise; and

(c) the action taken thereon, so far?

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 (c) Prime Minister, during his visit to Jammu & Kashmir on 13-14th February, 1997 announced following measures with a view to accelerate the process of development and normalisation in Jammu & Kashmir :-

- The increased outlay of State Annual Plan 1996-97 of Rs. 1250 crores.
- The State Government will be enabled to have a reasonable outlay in 9th Five Year Plan.
- The Annual Plan of 1997-98 would be further enhanced and necessary support will be provided for this purpose so as to ensure that the plan outlay fixed for each year is protected and funds are also made available for meeting the non-plan gap in resources.
- Central Government would provide additional assistance to restore infrastructure damaged due to militancy. Nearly Rs. 1500 crores

would be provided for the purpose of rural development and basic minimum services in the 9th Plan. The State Government would be authorised to debit restoration of damaged infrastructure to this amount.

- More towns in the State will be brought under Prime Minister Integrated Poverty Eradication Programme.
- Allocation of power from Central Projects would be increased from 600MW to 876MW to fully meet the power shortage in the State.
- Special funding mechanism including external assistance for implementation of projects like Protection and Development of Dal and other important lakes, masterplan for control of floods in the valley and action plan for improving the navigation and environmental aspects of Jhelum on the lines of Ganga Action Plan would be devised.
- Transportation of fertilisers in Jammu & Kashmir would be fully subsidised.

This is in addition to the other announcements of Prime Minister made in both Houses of Parliament on 23.07.1996 and 02.08.1996.

Follow-up action has been initiated for implementing the above mentioned announcements and the progress monitored regularly.

[Translation]

MRTS

2724. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have accorded the permission to the long awaited Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS) of National Capital Territory of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of years likely to be taken in completion of this project and the amount likely to be incurred thereon; and

(d) the length of routes on which work is proposed to be commenced in the first phase of this project and the details of the main routes to be covered?

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) Yes, Sir. The Government have accorded its investment approval to Delhi MRTS project on 17th September, 1996.

(b, to (d) The first phase of the proposed Delhi Mass Rapid Transit System covers a route length of 55.3 Kms. which includes surface/elevated rail system from Shahadra to Nangloi via Shastri Park, I.S.B.T., Pul

Bangash, Pratap Nagar, Rampura, Shakur Basti, Mangol Puri; Subzi Mandi to Holambi Kalan via Shakti Nagar, Azadpur, Naya Azadpur, Transport Nagar, Badli, Khera Kalan, Ambedkar Colony; and under ground rail from Central Secretariat to Vishwa Vidyalyaya via Connaught Place, New/Old Delhi Railway Station, I.S.B.T. and Old Secretariat. The total estimated cost of the project is Rs. 4860 crores (at April, 96 prices). The project is proposed to be completed within nine years from 1.4.1996.

[English]

REC Aid to Maharashtra

2725. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the projects financed by REC in Maharashtra and funds sought, released and actually utilised by the State during the last three years, year-wise and project-wise;

(b) whether non-release or delay in release of funds has affected implementation of these projects;

(c) if so, the action taken to ensure timely and adequate release of funds to the executing agency; and

(d) the number and names of projects cleared and under consideration for financial support?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) provides financial assistance to Maharashtra State Electricity Board for the intensive electrification of already electrified villages, energisation of pumpsets and improvements in the power systems of rural areas under various categories of projects. The Planning Commission allocates funds every year for rural electrification in accordance with the proposals of the States. The Planning Commission allocation and the amount disbursed by REC to Maharashtra State under its various categories of sanctioned schemes for the last three years is given hereunder :-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Allocation	Amount disbursed by REC
1993-94	4650	5647
1994-95	6254	9299
1995-96	6330	9730

The amount disbursed by REC to Maharashtra State has been fully utilised.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, it does not arise.

(d) REC has allocated for Maharashtra in 1996-97, Rs. 6700 lakhs for the programmes of System Improvement, Pumpset Energisation and Load Intensification. These schemes are being sanctioned by

REC, in accordance with the requirements of MSEB and as approved by Planning Commission, so as to ensure full utilisation of the funds.

[Translation]

Employment Guarantee Scheme

2726. SHRI SIBU SOREN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have introduced any employment Guarantee scheme for the betterment of the people living below the poverty line in rural areas;

(b) whether there is any instruction in this scheme to make payment to the beneficiaries only after they have done their fifty percent work;

(c) whether the beneficiaries are capable of completing their fifty percent work without any prior payment;

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to make advance payment to the beneficiaries against the quantum of work they have done; and

(e) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have introduced Employment Assurance Scheme for providing wage employment during lean agricultural season to the rural poor.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir. There are instructions that the wages should be paid weekly, preferably on the local market day.

(e) Does not arise.

Drinking Water

2727. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of rural population provided the facilities of drinking water and sanitation during 1985, 1990 and 1997;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to improve the sanitation facilities in rural areas; and

(c) the extent to which the non-Government organisations have been involved in rendering assistance in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The percentage of rural population provided with the Water Supply and