

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) If not the reasons for each suggestion for being not accepted in the policy; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Registry of the Supreme Court for providing accommodation to all the registered advocates without chambers in the new building meant for them or elsewhere in the precinct of the Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected from the Registry of the Supreme Court and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Proposal for Super Thermal Power Project at MTPS

674. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 3rd unit of Malthan Thermal Power station will be synchronized shortly;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up Super Thermal Power Project at M.T.P.S.;

(c) If so, the likely time by which the work on this would start; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d) Malthan thermal power station with an installed capacity of 1000 MW is still at the initial planning stage. The work on the project can only commence after DVC receives techno-economic clearance from CEA and other statutory clearances and the financing and other technical arrangements are finalised.

Electronic Telephone Exchanges in A.P.

675. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of electronic telephone exchanges functioning in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to convert some of the existing manual telephone exchanges into electronic ones in various cities in Andhra Pradesh in the current year;

(c) If so, the details thereof, district-wise; and

(d) the estimated expenditure involved in conversion of these exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) There are 1996 Nos. of electronic telephone exchanges working in Andhra Pradesh as on

31.3.98. District-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) There are no manual Telephone Exchanges in AP as on 31.3.98.

(c) and (d) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Statement

District-wise Electronic Exchanges as on 31.3.98 in A.P.

S.No.	Name of the District	No of Electronic Exchanges
1.	Adilabad	61
2.	Ananthapur	127
3.	Chittoor	130
4.	Cuddapah	86
5.	East Godavari	106
6.	Guntur	114
7.	Hyderabad	48
7A.	Rangareddy	69
8.	Karimnagar	79
9.	Khammam	80
10.	Krishna	120
11.	Kurnool	125
12.	Mahaboodnagar	97
13.	Medak	86
14.	Nalgonda	83
15.	Nellore	92
16.	Nizamabad	57
17.	Prakasham	78
18.	Srikakulam	51
19.	Visakhapatnam	65
20.	Vizianagaram	50
21.	Warangal	55
22.	West Godavari	137
Total		1996

[Translation]

New Thermal Power Station in Bihar

676. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to install new thermal power stations or increase the capacity of the

existing ones in Bihar in view of the fact that maximum quantity of coal is available there;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the capacity of existing thermal power stations in the State?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d) The following two thermal projects under the State sector have been cleared by the Central Electricity Authority. But the work on these projects could not be taken up due to financial constraints.

1. Tenughat TPP St. II (3 x 210 MW)
2. Muzaffarpur TPP extension (2 x 250 MW)

In addition to the above State projects, the following coal based thermal projects requiring the techno-economic clearance of Central Electricity Authority are proposed to be developed through the private sector in Bihar:-

1. Jajobera TPP (240 MW) of M/s. Jamshedpur Power Company Ltd.
2. Chandil TPP (500 MW) which is presently under bidding.

[English]

Integrated Rural Energy Programme

677. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any kind of work has been carried out in Gujarat under the Integrated Rural Energy Programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the expenditure incurred during each of the last three years on the same?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As part of the Integrated Rural Energy Programme, block-level integrated rural energy projects are prepared and implemented under which various energy devices are promoted through extension, demonstration and incentives for meeting the energy needs of the rural people. The various energy devices promoted in IREP blocks in Gujarat include, among others, Improved Chulhas, Wind Mills, Solar Cookers, Solar Photovoltaic Systems, Motorised Potter's Wheel, Bio-gas Plants, Energy Plantation, energy Efficient Devices, etc.

An expenditure of Rs. 83.05 lakhs, Rs. 78.74 lakhs and Rs. 71.58 lakhs have been incurred during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively.

Ban of Plying of Commercial Vehicles

678. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to ban the plying of commercial vehicles which are 15 years old in the country;
- (b) if so, whether 15 years old commercial vehicles are creating maximum pollution in the environment;
- (c) the time by which a final decision to impose a ban on such old commercial vehicles would be taken; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The age of the vehicle is not related to the quantum of pollutants emitted. It depends on the maintenance of the vehicle, quality of fuel and other technological aspects.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(d) The amount of pollutants emitted from a vehicle primarily depends on its maintenance/fitness. Accordingly, as per rule 82 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, the Central Government have already prescribed the necessity of a "Certificate of Fitness" for every commercial/transport vehicles for their valid registration. The validity of such "Certificate of Fitness" is for two years for new vehicles and subsequently for one year. The vehicles which fail to obtain such "Certificate of Fitness" are not allowed to ply on roads.

Nehru Yuvak Kendras in Jammu and Kashmir

679. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of Nehru Yuvak Kendras functioning in Jammu and Kashmir and the areas covered by them;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to open any Nehru Yuvak Kendras in Udhampur area;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the total amount spent during the last three years till date on these Kendras?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) At present, the following 14 Nehru Yuvak Kendras are functioning in Jammu & Kashmir :—

1. Kathua