

13

**STANDING COMMITTEE
ON ENERGY
(1998-99)**

TWELFTH LOK SABHA

**MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL
ENERGY SOURCES**

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(1998-99)**

**[Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations
contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Energy
(Twelfth Lok Sabha)]**

THIRTEENTH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

3657R

February, 1999/Phalguna, 1920 (Saka)

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(1998-99)
(TWELFTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL
ENERGY SOURCES

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(1998-99)

*[Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations
contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Energy
(Twelfth Lok Sabha)]*

Presented to Lok Sabha on... 0 MAR. 1999
Laid in Rajya Sabha on.....



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

(1998-99)

Shri K. Karunakaran — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. **Shri Basudeb Acharia**
3. **Shri Tariq Anwar**
4. **Shri Parasram Bhardwaj**
5. **Smt. Rani Chitralekha Bhosle**
6. **Shri Bikash Chowdhury**
7. **Shri K. C. Kondaiah**
8. **Dr. H. Lallungmuana**
9. **Shri Rajbanshi Mahto**
10. **Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal**
11. **Shri Som Marandi**
12. **Smt. Sukhda Mishra**
13. **Shri Salkhan Murmu**
14. **Shri Vilas Muttemwar**
15. **Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey**
16. **Shri Amar Roy Pradhan**
17. **Shri Naresh Kumar Chunnalal Puglia**
18. **Shri Kanumuru Bapi Raju**
19. **Shri Braj Mohan Ram**
20. **Shri Anantha Venkatrami Reddy**
21. **Shri Nuthana Kalva Ramakrishna Reddy**
22. **Dr. Jayanta Rongpi**
23. **Shri Larang Sai**
24. **Shri Francisco Sardinha**

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(1998-99)

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23. **Shri Larang Sai**
24. **Shri Francisco Sardinha**

(iv)

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28. Shri Chandramani Tripathi
29. Prof. (Smt.) Rita Verma
30. Shri Sushil Chandra Verma

Rajya Sabha

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34. Shri Jalaluddin Ansari
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36. Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad
37. Shri E. Balanandan
38. Shri Sushil Barongpa
39. Shri Brahma Kumar Bhatt
40. Shri Ramashanker Kaushik
41. Shri S. M. Krishna
42. Shri Bangaru Laxman
43. Shri Nabam Rebia

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
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| 2. Shri John Joseph | — | <i>Joint Secretary</i> |
| 3. Shri P. K. Bhandari | — | <i>Deputy Secretary</i> |
| 4. Shri R. S. Kambo | — | <i>Under Secretary</i> |
| 5. Shri N. K. Jha | — | <i>Reporting Officer</i> |

COMPOSITION OF SUB-COMMITTEE ON ACTION
TAKEN REPORTS

- Shri K. Karunakaran — *Chairman*
2. Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad — *Convenor*
3. Shri Basudeb Acharia
4. Shri Bangaru Laxman
5. Shri Vilas Muttemwar
6. Shri Sushil Chandra Verma
7. Shri Nuthana Kalva Ramakrishna Reddy
8. Shri Rajbanshi Mahto

INTRODUCTION

1. the Chairman, Standing Committee on Energy having been authorised by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this Thirteenth Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Energy (Twelfth Lok Sabha) on "Demands for Grants (1998-99) of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources".

2. The Third Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Energy was presented to Lok Sabha on 4th July, 1998. Replies of the Government to all the recommendations contained in the Report were received on 28th January, 1999. The Sub-Committee on Action Taken Reports considered the Action Taken Replies received from the Government and considered and adopted the Report at its sitting held on 15th February, 1999.

3. The Standing Committee on Energy considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 23rd February, 1999. The Committee place on record their appreciation of the work done by the Sub-Committee on Action Taken Reports.

4. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given at Annexure-III.

5. For facility of reference and convenience, the observations and recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the body of the Report.

NEW DELHI,
27 February, 1999
8 Phalguna, 1920 (Saka)

K. KARUNAKARAN,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Energy.

CHAPTER I

REPORT

The Report of the Committee deals with the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Energy on "Demands for Grants (1998-99) of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources" which was presented to Lok Sabha on 4th July, 1998.

2. Action Taken Notes have been received from the Government in respect of all the recommendations contained in the Report. These have been categorised as follows:—

- (i) Recommendations/Observations that have been accepted by the Government : Sl. Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16 and 17.
- (ii) Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies: Sl. No. 9.
- (iii) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee: Sl. Nos. 2 and 13.
- (iv) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited : Nil.

3. The Committee will now deal with the Action Taken by the Government on some of their recommendations/observations.

A. Imposition of cuts in the approved Budget

Recommendation (Sl. No. 2, Para No. 2.15)

4. The Committee had expressed their anguish over Ministry of Finance imposing a cut in the approved Budget of MNES. The Committee had observed that such cut had affected various schemes/programmes of the Ministry in achieving the set out targets. The Committee while deprecating Ministry of Finance, questioned their jurisdiction, in imposing a cut, when the Budget of Ministry had the approval of Parliament.

5. The Ministry of NCES in their reply stated that they have conveyed the conclusion/recommendation of the Committee to the Ministry of Finance.

6. The Ministry of Finance, to whom comments of the Committee were forwarded, *inter-alia* stated that the budget of Ministry/Department is finalised

and approved by the Ministry of Finance for presenting to Parliament for approval. While it is the responsibility of Ministry of Finance to present the Demands for Grants of the Ministry/Department concern, it is the duty of Ministry of Finance to ensure proper utilisation of funds approved by the Parliament with due observance of laid down Rules and Procedures. The Parliament's approval is for expenditure on a 'non exceeding basis'. Expenditure incurred within the ceilings prescribed in the Appropriation Act is in conformity with Parliament's approval.

7. The Committee are not convinced with the argument put forth by the Ministry of Finance that the Parliament's approval is for expenditure on a "non exceeding basis" and the expenditure incurred within the ceilings prescribed in the Appropriation Act is in conformity with the Parliaments' approval. The Committee while acknowledging that although it is the duty of Ministry of Finance to ensure that funds as approved by Parliament are utilised properly and prudently, at the same time, it is also their responsibility to ensure that a Ministry/Department is not starved of funds, lest the specific targets of different programmes for which the money had been sanctioned go haywire. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation and desire that Ministry of Finance should not ordinarily impose a cut on the approved budget of a Ministry unless and until it is absolutely desirable and essential and that too should be done in consultation with the Ministry concerned.

B. National Project on Biogas Development (NPBD)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 7, Para No. 2.39)

8. The Committee had desired that besides increasing budgetary allocation for the National Project on Biogas Development (NPBD) programme, the Government should also utilise the allocated funds so that potentialities of the programme can be further harnessed expeditiously. The Committee had also desired the Government to clarify as to why the physical targets for the scheme in the 9th plan had been brought down in comparison to the achievements in 8th plan. Apart from these, the Committee had recommended that States should give high priority to this programme and also establish nodal agencies in the States where these are not existing so that the programme can be implemented efficiently.

9. In their reply, the Ministry have stated the Chief Secretaries of all North-Eastern Region States and Sikkim have been requested to review the progress of implementation of National Project on Biogas Development (NPBD) during 1998-99 and to consider achieving higher targets and send proposal. The Government have also informed that they plan to organise Regional Meetings and discussions with all State Nodal Departments and agencies during October to December, 1998, so that higher priority could be given to this programme and appropriate strategies could be evolved to exploit the potentialities at a faster rate.

10. The Committee are not satisfied with the evasive reply of the Government on a nationally important, eco-friendly, NPBD programme. The Committee are dismayed to note that the Government have only paid lip service regarding fixing higher priority, achieving higher target and evolving new strategy for the rural women friendly and fuel saving programme. Considering the importance of the project in improving the quality of life in rural areas, the Committee strongly stress the total utilisation of the allocated funds so that full potentialities of the project can be harnessed expeditiously. Furthermore, absence of nodal agency in many States results in deficiency in infrastructural facilities which check the effective development of the programme. The Committee therefore reiterate that the Union Government should assist State Governments in setting up such nodal agencies. The Committee expect that necessary action would be taken expeditiously and Committee informed about the progress made in this regard within three months of presentation of this Report.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 8, Para No. 2.40)

11. The Committee had desired that State Governments should be convinced about the utility of the NPBD in improving the quality of life in rural areas and public awareness programme be also launched. The Committee had also recommended that all out efforts should be made to procure loans from international financial agencies like World Bank etc., which had shown some interest in this programme.

12. In their reply, the Ministry have, *inter-alia* informed that exclusive core-staff have been sanctioned to all the North-Eastern States and Sikkim for implementation of biogas programme. These States will also be requested to fill up the posts and accelerate the pace of implementation during 1998-99. During the same period 2000 One-day user's course in different States and Union Territories (UTs) have been planned to educate the rural people. Besides, State nodal departments and agencies are given financial support for carrying out publicity and awareness programmes for local folk in art forms and idioms and print and electronic media including Doordarshan and All India Radio. A brochure on "Bio-Gas" in Hindi and English languages has been distributed and also a "Bio-Gas Users Guide" in Hindi, English and Tamil has been brought out by NGO, and distributed to the States concerned. In view of social and environmental benefits, UNDP and GEF have responded positively. UNDP local office has now been requested to arrange Technical Assistance for the service of an International Expert to prepare a detailed project document for posing to World Bank and other multi-lateral and bi-lateral agencies.

13. The Committee note with serious concern that the Government has failed to convince the States about the utility of the scheme in improving the quality of life in rural areas. Consistent vigorous efforts are required to pursue the State Governments in this regard. The Committee feel that for preparing a detailed project document on the programme, Ministry

should also make use of the expertise from different research, scientific and educational institutions, universities, national laboratories, industries etc. from within the country as the Indian experts are better aware of the living conditions in different regions of the country, their tastes, requirements etc. The Committee desire that impact of different awareness programmes should also be evaluated and followed up by approaching the target groups.

D. National Programme on Improved Chulhas (NPICs)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 12, Para No. 2.68)

14. Considering the eco-friendly aspects of the National Programme on Improved Chulhas (NPIC) and its role in improving the quality of life in rural areas, the Committee had noted with concern the slow progress made by the scheme so far. In fact, both physical and financial targets for 1998-99 had come down in comparison to the targets of 1996-97 and 1997-98. As a result of which, the coverage of the total potential would reach only 31% after the 9th plan. The Committee had desired the involvement of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in educating the rural people about the benefits of NPIC. The Committee had also desired that more funds should be allocated and rural entrepreneurs trained under this programme.

15. The Ministry in their reply have informed that 5,000 one-day users courses in different States and Union Territories (UTs) have been planned for the year 1998-99 under National Programme on Improved Chulhas (NPIC), State Nodal departments and agencies are given financial support for carrying out publicity and awareness programmes. In addition, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission is exhibiting improved designs of Chulhas in local fairs etc. The KVIC has planned to train a total of about 7500 entrepreneurs for implementing NPIC. During the year 1998-99, the focus has been shifted to promote improved Chulhas with chimney. They are also planning to integrate NPIC with the programmes of Ministry of Environment and Forests. Besides, State Governments are also bringing out publicity materials in regional languages. Ministry are also sponsoring - Weekly broadcast on improved chulhas in about thirty regional stations of AIR and a brochure on "Improved Chulhas" has also been brought out in different languages and distributed widely. The Planning Commission is also considering a proposal on rapid expansion and improvement of physical infrastructure which includes stepping up of budget by about 10% for promotion of new and renewable sources of energy. On approval of the proposal, the budget for NPIC would get enhanced and accordingly, higher targets would be planned in the year 1999-2000 to meet the demand.

16. The Committee note the various steps initiated/to be initiated by the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) in commissioning, propagating and working of the National Programme on Improved Chulhas (NPIC). The Committee

feel that a pool of trained personnel should be built at the block or village-level which can cater to all the projects like National Programme on Improved Chulhas (NPIC), National Projects on Bio-gas Development (NPBD) and Community, Institutional and Night-soil Bio-gas Plants or (CBP/IBP/NBP) programme etc. In regard to publicity and awareness programmes, the Committee would like to suggest that the utility of such programmes should be constantly measured and evaluated to bring in the desired results.

E Small Hydro Power Programme

Recommendation (Sl. No. 13, Para No. 2.86)

17. The Committee had observed that out of the present installed capacity of 155.38 MW from 216 Small Hydro Stations, projects of about 80 MW capacity installed by the end of the 7th Five Year Plan period were old and had sub-optimal generation. It was therefore, suggested that Government should identify and draw up a list of all such plants which need renovation and that only such projects having reasonable cost of renovation should be taken up ensuring their completion within the stipulated period from the date of sanction so as to avoid time and cost overrun.

18. The Committee note that Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (MNES) has announced a scheme for financial support to works for Renovation/Modernisation and capacity uprating of SHPs up to 3 MW which are either non-operational or are generating at sub-optimal level. Out of the 14 proposals aggregating to 17.3 MW for R&M of old SHP station, the Ministry approved 7 projects in principle. The State Power Electricity Boards and State Nodal Agencies have been asked to identify and to assess the performance of old SHPs which can be renovated within reasonable time limits and to submit proposals to the Ministry for financial support. The Ministry received firm up-costs for the R&M works for two projects from Sikkim namely, Jali power station (6x350 KW) and Rongnichu-II (5x500 KW). These proposals have been approved by the Projects Appraisal Committee for SHP in the Ministry in its meeting held on 28th August, 1998.

19. The Committee acknowledge that generation of power through Renovation and Modernisation of old SHPs is one of the cost-effective renewable option available. Subsidised soft loan with reduced rate of interest is another attraction, for older units to undergo R&M. But the Committee are dismayed to note the slow progress made in renovating and modernising of the old SHPs. As against 80 MW capacity which need R&M and uprating, only 17 MW capacity has been identified. The Committee express their unhappiness over Ministry's failure in preparing a detailed list of all such plants which need renovation. The need for such a list of projects requiring renovation and modernisation is self-evident. The Committee, therefore, reiterate that a comprehensive list of old SHPs requiring renovation and modernisation should be prepared immediately. Thereafter they may draw up a time bound programme for R&M works of those plants and also

ensure availability of sufficient funds for the same.

F New Technologies

Recommendation (Sl. No. 14, Para No. 2.101)

20. The Committee had desired that further R&D and more fund was needed to establish the viability of new emerging renewable technologies prior to commercialisation. But, the Committee found that during the 8th Plan period, expenditure on various schemes under new technologies had been much less than the budgeted amount, and the proposals for the 9th Plan are not much higher than the 8th Plan outlays, even the physical targets had not been achieved in a number of programmes like Battery Operated Vehicle (BOVs) and Alternative Fuel for Surface Transportation. In case of tidal power plants, it was decided to take up the demonstration project in Sunderbans. The Committee were of the view that more stress should be given on R&D and if possible in collaboration with private sectors where they could be allowed to commercially exploit the new technology. However before taking up any technology, the cost and benefit analysis may also be kept in view before investing substantially in any project.

21. The Ministry in their reply have informed that under MNES funded projects 5 KW, 10 KW & 25 KW capacity fuel cell power plants have been developed. A fuel cell power plants of 50 KW is being developed and 200 KW has been installed at Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL), Hyderabad to generate electricity. Development of a fuel cell vehicle has been taken up as an R&D project. Under another R&D project sponsored by MNES, a hydrogen fueled motor cycle has been developed and demonstrated. A photo-bio reactor (250 litres/day capacity) has been developed and another of larger capacity photo-bio reactor (5000 litres per day capacity) is in progress for the production of hydrogen from organic effluents. 10 KW hydrogen fueled genset, has been developed at the Indian Institute of Technology, (IIT) New Delhi. The Ministry has also been using the Geo-thermal energy for power generation as well as for direct heat application in the country. For the developments of suitable batteries for electric vehicles, a high level Committee has been constituted under DG, CSIR. The CECRI, Banaras Hindu University (BHU) and Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory (DMRL) have been working jointly for developing high energy density batteries for electric vehicles. The Battery Operated Vehicle (BOVs) scheme has been modified with higher financial incentives *i.e.*, Central subsidy of the order of 50% of the total cost of the vehicles and it is expected to achieve a target of 200 Nos. during the 9th plan. Tidal energy is also an emerging renewable technology in India. A detailed Project Report (DPR) for a tidal power plant demonstration project for the proposed site in Sunderbans (West Bengal) is to be prepared by the State nodal agency in West Bengal with the support of the Ministry.

22. The Government have also admitted under utilisation of the allocated funds during the 8th plan period. The under utilisation had been due to low

level of commercialisation, resulting in receiving limited proposals. Taking into consideration this aspect, the 9th plan allocation has been proposed at Rs. 20 crore, which is less than the 8th plan allocation. The Ministry expect, that as a result of vigorous efforts made by it in the development and commercialisation of new emerging technologies, the size and the expenditure of the programme will be higher in the 9th plan as compared to the 8th plan. In a new approach, MNES has taken up R&D projects on development of fuel cells with a consortium of research institute, industry and end users. Similar projects are being prepared for other new technology areas. Cost-Benefit analysis is being kept in view while taking up projects/programmes requiring substantial investment.

23. The Committee are happy to note that the Ministry is taking active steps to promote the accelerated development and commercialisation of emerging renewable energy technologies especially fuel cells and electric vehicles. It is expected that as a result of these efforts, further demonstration and operational programme would be taken up in the near future. The Committee feel that allocation of more funds, further R&D and interaction of experts/scientists with their counterparts in other countries is required to keep abreast with the emerging technologies. Programme such as Battery-Operated Vehicles (BOVs) have not quite lived upto expectations and need further R&D to make them technically viable, reliable and more cost-effective before they are likely to make an impact on the energy scene. Hydrogen energy, BOVs and Tidal energy are the fields where the private sectors and even the NRIs could be motivated to commercially exploit the new technologies. Over and above, techno-economic feasibility of these renewable energy sources needs to be established before going into large scale commercialisation.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Sl. No. 1)

The Committee note with grave concern that the Ministry of Finance imposed a cut in the approved budget of MNES without consulting the Ministry. These cuts have affected various schemes/programmes of the Ministry in achieving the targets and even major programmes like Solar Photovoltaics for 1997-98 has seriously been affected.

Reply of the Government (MNES)

The recommendation/conclusion of the Standing Committee on Energy has been noted by the Ministry.

[Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources O.M. No. 8/5/98 — P&C
Dated : 21.10.98]

Reply of the Ministry of Finance

It is not correct that the cut in the Revised Budget was imposed by MoF without consulting the Ministry of NES. The Revised Budget was made on the basis of discussions in the meeting taken by Secy. (E) with the officials of MNES headed by the Financial Adviser, taking into account the progress of expenditure under each scheme.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 3)

The Committee are also concerned to note the low level of utilisation of funds by the MNES and overall performance of the Ministry due to which this cut was imposed by the Ministry of Finance. The reasons for low utilisation of funds seems to be internal wrangling within MNES.

Reply of the Government (MNES)

Procedure for financial concurrence and approval in this Ministry has been rationalised to ensure its smooth functioning and close coordination between various division of the Ministry as a result of which pace of utilisation of funds during 1998-99 is much faster than in the year 1997-98.

[Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources O.M. No. 8/5/98 — P&C
Dated : 21.10.98]

Reply of the Ministry of Finance

A statement showing the utilisation of funds by MNES month-wise during the financial year 1997-98 is placed below which may kindly be seen. Based

on the actual expenditure of Rs. 117.43 crores upto the end of February, 1998. The RE ceiling of Rs. 190 crores fixed by the Finance Ministry was totally justified.

STATEMENT

Showing the month-wise expenditure of MNES incurred during Year 1997-98.

(In crores of Rs.)

| | Plan Expenditure | | Non-Plan Expenditure | |
|-----------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| | For the Month | Up to the Month | For the Month | Up to the Month |
| April | (-) 0.69 | (-) 0.69 | 0.43 | 0.43 |
| May | 0.35 | (-) 0.34 | 0.30 | 0.73 |
| June | 0.50 | 0.16 | 0.29 | 1.02 |
| July | 0.66 | 0.82 | 0.32 | 1.34 |
| August | 29.97 | 30.79 | 0.32 | 1.66 |
| September | 14.84 | 45.63 | 0.37 | 2.03 |
| October | 3.38 | 49.01 | 0.68 | 2.71 |
| November | 7.67 | 56.68 | 0.44 | 3.15 |
| December | 28.07 | 84.75 | 0.32 | 3.47 |
| January | 11.28 | 96.03 | 0.34 | 3.81 |
| February | 21.40 | 117.43 | 0.41 | 4.22 |
| *March | 103.01 | 220.44 | 0.09 | 4.31 |
| | | (224.38)* | | |

* Indicated by MNES.

Recommendation (SI. No. 4)

The Committee also note with concern that a large number of conditionalities laid down by the Ministry of Finance are the main reasons for delays in the release of moneys and consequently affecting, to a large extent, the achievements of targets. While the spirit behind these conditionalities may be good, these do affect the smooth functioning of the Ministry by way of tip offs between the Secretary and the Head of Integrated Finance Division of the Ministry as in the present case.

Reply of the Government (MNES)

The recommendation of the Committee has been noted. During the current and subsequent year the conditionalities for release of funds will be made in accordance with the pattern of funding approved by Ministry in consultation with IFD.

[Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources O. M. No. 8/5/98 — P&C
Dated : 21.10.98]

Reply of the Ministry of Finance

The guidelines/conditionalities were given to MNES in order to ensure only the proper utilisation of funds during the fag end of the year and to avoid any non-essential expenditure. MNES was allowed to release the funds for various projects even beyond the RE limit of Rs. 190 crore subject to conditionalities given to them which could go upto the limit of the Budget Estimates of Plan expenditure approved by the Parliament (*i.e.* Rs. 339.13 crore, if justified).

Recommendation (Sl. No. 5)

The Committee are of the view that there should be proper coordination between the Ministry of Finance and MNES and the Ministry of Finance should have the views of Secretary, MNES before any cut is imposed so that major programmes of the Ministry are not affected.

Reply of the Government (MNES)

The Government will ensure proper coordination between Ministry of Finance and MNES.

[Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources O. M. No. 8/5/98 — P&C
Dated : 21.10.98]

Reply of the Ministry of Finance

After finalisation of RE ceiling of Rs. 190 crores Secretary (MNES) had taken up the matter with Secy. (E) for augmentation of RE ceiling. The request was considered and MNES was allowed to incur expenditure on various Plan projects within the budget estimates approved by the Parliament. The actual expenditure during the financial year 1997-98 as reported by MNES is Rs. 224.38 crores only as against the budget estimates of Rs. 339.13 crores.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 6)

The Committee also recommend that some mechanism may be evolved in MNES so that the budgeted funds are utilised properly over the year. The Ministry of Finance will also do some good if they allow enough freedom to the Secretary of the Ministry in spending the approved budgeted amount.

Reply of the Government (MNES)

The Ministry is holding regular expenditure review meeting to ensure that expenditure is spread evenly throughout the year and consequently physical targets set for the current year are achieved.

[Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources O. M. No. 8/5/98 — P&C
Dated : 21.10.98]

Reply of the Ministry of Finance

We have noted the recommendations of the Committee and these will be kept in view considering changes in the current practices and procedures in expenditure management.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 7)

The National Project on Biogas Development is an important project in improving the quality of life in rural areas. But, the Committee note with concern that the budget provisions for the scheme over the years have not increased commensurate with its social importance. And whatever budget had been provided even that could not be utilised. Even the physical targets for the scheme for 9th Plan have been brought down in comparison to the achievements in 8th Plan. At the present rate of achievement it will take decades to fully exploit the potential of the biogas plants in the country. Apart from the financial constraints, one of the reasons stated for the low performance of the scheme is low priority given by the State Governments and consequently the absence of any nodal agency in many of the States.

Reply of the Government

Chief Secretaries of all North-Eastern Region States and Sikkim have been requested, *inter-alia*, to review the progress of implementation of National Project on Biogas Development (NPBD) during 1998-99, to consider achieving higher targets and send proposals thereto *vide* D. O. 407/1/98—IC dated August 28, 1998. It is planned to organise Regional Meetings and discussions with all State nodal departments and agencies during October to December, 1998 months, including the States lagging behind in achieving the allocated targets.

The States would be requested to give high priority to this nationally important programme and develop strategy to exploit the potential at a faster rate.

[Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources O. M. No. 8/5/98 — P&C
Dated : 21.10.98]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see paragraph 10 of Chapter I of the Report)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 8)

The Committee are of the view that all our efforts should be made to convince the State Governments about the utility of the scheme in improving

the quality of life in rural areas. The State Governments should be extended all help, financial and other, in setting up nodal agencies which can take care of the implementation of grass root level especially in the States which are lagging behind but have high potential in the field. The Committee are also of the opinion that a public awareness programme should also be started for this scheme. The Committee also recommend that all out efforts should be made to get Loans from international bodies like World Bank which has shown interest in this project because of its social importance."

Reply of the Government

Under National Project on Biogas Development, all North-Eastern Region States and Sikkim have been sanctioned core staff exclusively for implementation of biogas programme. These States will be requested to fill up the posts and accelerate the pace of implementation during 1998-99.

To educate the rural people and raise the level of their awareness, the target of organising 2,000 one-day users course in different States and UTs has been planned for 1998-99 under National Project on Biogas Development (NPBD). Besides, State nodal departments and agencies are given financial support for carrying out publicity and awareness programme for local folk art forms and idioms and print and electronic media including Doordarshan and All India Radio. The Ministry has distributed a brochure on "Biogas" in Hindi and English languages. A "Biogas Users' Guide" has also been brought out in Hindi, English and Tamil languages through an NGO, namely, Vivekanand Kendra, Kanyakumari and distributed to States concerned.

UNDP and GEF have responded positively to the request of the Ministry to extend support to biogas programme on social and environmental benefits view points. The UNDP Local Office has now been requested to arrange Technical Assistance for the service of an International Expert to prepare a detailed project document for posing to world Bank and other multi-lateral and bi-lateral agencies.

[Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources O. M. No. 8/5/98 — P&C Dated : 21.10.98]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see paragraph 13 of Chapter I of the Report)

Recommendation (SL No. 10)

The Committee are constrained to note the declining trend in the budget allocations for the scheme during the 9th Plan and the low targets fixed for setting up the plants. The Annual Plan expenditure for 1998-99 has also come down in comparison to the Budget-Estimate for the year 1997-98. The Committee are also concerned to note that during the year 1997-98 the targets could not be achieved because of non-release of funds to the States and agencies due to bureaucratic and procedural wrangles. The Committee are also concerned about the large number of non-functional institutional and community plants.

Reply of the Government

Funds have already been released in advance to six State Governments and nodal agencies. Action is being taken to release funds in advance to the remaining 13 State Governments and agencies even though utilisation certificate for the previous years are pending so that the current year's programme does not get affected.

Important steps taken to overcome the problem of non-achievement of the targets and non-functioning of institutional and community biogas plants are as follows: (i) Targets for setting up of biogas plants during 1998-99 has been fixed matching with the availability of funds, after excluding the amount needed to liquidate the past liabilities. (ii) Achievements will be monitored on a quarterly basis States lagging behind in achieving the targets will be reminded for time to time. (iii) Regional Offices of the Ministry have been assigned inspection of biogas plants. It is proposed to verify 100% of the achievements made by non-governmental organisations, which are receiving targets directly from the Ministry. (iv) Regional Offices of the Ministry are also being involved in rechecking the technical feasibility of the proposals received from the State Governments and nodal agencies for setting up such plants. (v) States and nodal agencies have been requested to hand over the non-functional village based community plants to panchayats or local NGO or entrepreneurs to repair and run the plants on a self-sustaining basis.

[Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources O. M. No. 8/5/98 — P&C
Dated : 21.10.98]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 11)

The Committee suggest that budget allocations for the Scheme should be enhanced suitably so that better physical targets be achieved. The Committee are of the view that the Government should also ensure continued working of the community plants so that the moneys already spent by Government do not go waste. The Government should ensure their proper maintenance and wherever possible, private entrepreneurs should be involved in it.

Reply of the Government

Planning Commission is considering a proposal for rapid expansion of physical infrastructure, which includes stepping up budget for renewable energy programme. On approval of this proposal, higher budgetary allocation for the year 1999-2000 is expected and accordingly targets will be up scaled.

State Governments have been requested to take up construction of new community plant only after ensuring participation of beneficiaries concerned and identifying an NGO or entrepreneur to operate and maintain the plants on self-sustaining basis.

[Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources O. M. No. 8/5/98 — P&C
Dated : 21.10.98]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 12)

The National Programme on Improved Chulhas is yet another programme of improving the quality of life in rural areas. It also has an important role in checking the problem of deforestation. The scheme is a part of the Twenty Point Programme. But the Committee note with concern the slow progress made by the scheme so far. In fact, the physical and financial targets for the 9th Plan are a come down over the achievement made during the 8th Plan. As a result, both physical and financial targets for 1998-99 have come down in comparison to the targets of 1996-97 and 1997-98. With this rate of achievement, the coverage of the total potential would reach only 31% after the 9th Plan. The Committee are of the view that all out efforts should be made to educate the rural people and raise the level of their awareness about the scheme so that the demand of improved chulhas can be increased. These people can also ask their respective States to give priority to the scheme. As one of the objectives of the scheme is to check deforestation, efforts should be made to harness the support of NGOs working in the field of environment. The Committee also recommended that emphasis should continue to be laid on entrepreneurship in rural areas. The Committee are also of the view that NPIC being a national programme, more funds should be allocated for this scheme.

Reply of the Government

To educate the rural people and raise the level of their awareness, a target of organising 5,000 one-day Users' Courses in different States and UTs has been planned for 1998-99 under National Programme on Improved Chulhas (NPIC). Besides, State Nodal Departments and Agencies are given financial support for carrying out publicity and awareness programmes through local folk-art forms and idioms and print and electronic media including Doordarshan and All India Radio. Besides, State Governments are also bringing out booklets, leaflets, calendars and posters in regional languages for wider distribution. Also state nodal departments and agencies including Khadi and Village Industries Commission are exhibiting *inter-alia* improved designs of chulhas in local fairs, melas etc. The Ministry has been sponsoring a weekly broadcast on improved chulhas on about thirty regional Stations of All India Radio. A brochure on "Improved Chulhas" has also been brought out in English and Hindi languages and distributed widely. It is proposed to bring out the brochure in regional languages during 1998-99.

State Nodal Departments and Agencies have been requested again to involve large number of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) particularly women organisations and institutions concerned with generating environmental awareness among rural people. During 1998-99, the focus has been shifted to promote improved chulhas with chimney to harness environmental and health benefits. Efforts are being made to integrate NPIC with the programmes of Ministry of Environment and Forests.

The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has trained more

than 1,000 rural youth and is involving them as Rural energy Technicians in providing construction and maintenance servicing of improved chulhas with one year's warranty. For 1998-99, the target for training of entrepreneurs in the management of construction and maintenance of improved chulhas has been planned for 30 courses. In each course about 25 rural educated youth will be trained. Thus a total of about 7500 entrepreneurs will be trained and involved in the implementation of NPIC.

The Planning Commission is considering a proposal on rapid expansion and improvement of physical infrastructure, which includes stepping up of budget by about 10% for promotion of new and renewable sources of energy. On approval of the proposal, the budget for NPIC would get enhanced and accordingly higher targets would be planned in 1999-2000 to meet the demand.

[Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources O. M. No. 8/5/98 — P&C Dated 21.10.98]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see paragraph 16 of Chapter I of the Report)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 14)

The Committee note that the new emerging renewable technologies are still in the developmental stage and further R&D is needed to establish their viability prior to commercialization. But the Committee find that during the 8th plan period, expenditure on various schemes under new technologies had been much less than the budgetted amount and the proposals for the Ninth Plan are not much higher than the 8th Plan outlays. Even the physical targets had not been achieved in a number of programmes like Battery Operated Vehicles and Alternate Fuel for Surface Transportation. In case of tidal power plants, it has been decided to take up a demonstration project in Sunderbans. The Committee are of the view that more stress should be given on R&D and if possible in collaboration with private sector where they can be allowed to commercially exploit the new technology. However, before taking up any technology, the cost and benefit analysis may also be kept in view before investing substantially in any project.

Reply of the Government

The Ministry has been supporting R&D projects in research, scientific and educational institutions, universities, national laboratories, industries, etc. to bring the new and emerging renewable energy technologies to the stage of maturity, commercialisation and wider utilisation.

5 kW, 10 kW & 25 kW capacity fuel cell power plants have been developed under MNES funded projects, with the involvement of industry. A 50 kW fuel cell power plant is being developed. A 200 kW fuel cell power plant has also been installed at Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL), Hyderabad to generate electricity. The operational experience and feed back from this fuel cell power

plant will be useful for the Ministry's fuel cell programme. Development of a fuel cell vehicle has been taken up as an R&D project.

Under another R&D project sponsored by MNES, a hydrogen fuelled motor cycle has been developed and demonstrated on road conditions. A photobioreactor (250 litres/day capacity) has been developed for producing hydrogen from organic effluents. Work is in progress to construct larger photobioreactor (5000 litres per day capacity) for the production of hydrogen from industrial organic effluents. Under an R&D project currently under implementation 10 kW hydrogen fuelled genset, has been developed at the Indian Institute of Technolgoy, New Delhi.

Use of geothermal energy in greenhouse cultivation and poultry farming in Ladakh region had been demonstrated under an R&D project. The Ministry is promoting the use of geothermal energy both for power generation, as well as for direct heat applications in the country.

Under the demonstration programme launched by MNES, 207 electric vehicles were provided through state nodal agencies / departments. R&D project on high energy density batteries for electric vehicles has been undertaken jointly by Central Electrochemical Research Institute (CECRI), Banaras Hindu University (BHU) and Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory (DMRL). A high level committee on development of batteries for electric vehicles has been constituted under DG, CSIR by the Ministry to develop a strategy for development of suitable batteries for electric vehicles in the country.

As may be seen from the above account, the Ministry is taking active steps to promote the accelerated development and commercialisation of emerging renewable energy technologies especially fuel cells and electric vehicles. It is expected that as result of these efforts, further demonstration and operational programme would be taken up in the near future.

The funds allocated for programmes related to new and emerging renewable energy technologies could not be fully utilized during the 8th Plan Period as there were limited proposals because the technologies were not fully commercial. Considering this aspect, the 9th Plan allocation is Rs. 20.00 crores, which is less than the 8th Plan allocation of Rs. 20.58 crores. However, it is expected that as a result of the efforts made by the Ministry in the development and commercialization of new technologies including fuel cells and hydrogen energy, and for the setting up of demonstration projects for geo-thermal energy and tidal energy, as well as promotion of alternate transport systems, the size and the expenditure of the programme is expected to be higher in the 9th Plan as compared to the 8th Plan.

Battery Operated Vehicles are not yet commercially viable to users, even though they are environmentally friendly and help in conserving petroleum fuels, and therefore require financial and other incentives for their promotion. The Battery Operated Vehicle scheme has been modified with higher financial

incentives to users. Under this scheme the central subsidy to be provided by the Ministry will be 50% of the cost of the vehicle. It is expected that the scheme will pick up in 1998-99. Also R&D projects for high energy density batteries and controllers are expected to improve the functioning of Electric Vehicles. A modest target of 200 numbers of BOVs has been kept for the 9th Plan. It is expected that this target will be achieved and the foundation of a larger programme will be laid in the 9th Plan.

The Ministry is taking up the development of Tidal Energy in the country. A Detailed Project Report (DPR) for a tidal power plant demonstration project for the proposed site in Sunderbans is to be prepared by the state nodal agency in West Bengal with the support of the Ministry.

The Ministry has developed a new strategy to give more stress on R&D and attract participation from industry. Under this scheme the Ministry encourages industry to financially participate in the new R&D projects for which MNES also provides support. MNES has taken up R&D projects on development of fuel cells with a consortium of research institute, industry and end users. Similar projects are being prepared for other new technology areas. Cost-benefit analysis is being kept in view while taking up projects/programmes requiring substantial investment.

[Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources O.M. No. 8/5/98 — P&C
Dated : 21.10.98]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see paragraph 23 of Chapter I of the Report)

Recommendations (Sl. Nos. 15 & 16)

2.109 The Committee observe that sanction imposed by the World Bank and other funding agencies after the nuclear tests at Pokhran, are likely to have an adverse impact on various projects of MNES. The financing of small Hydro Power and Energy efficiency projects are bound to be hit the hardest.

2.110 The Committee are happy to note that the Integrated Rural Energy Development Agency is exploring alternative methods of raising resources from the domestic market, viz. Commercial banks, financial institutes and by way of issues of additional Tax Free Bonds, etc:

Reply of the Government

The Second India Renewable Energy Project (World Bank Second Line of Credit), with a total outlay of 135 million US Dollar including 130 million Dollar as World Bank loan and 5 million US Dollar GEF Grant, was negotiated with the World Bank in April, 1998. The project envisages financing of small hydro power and energy efficiency projects. Consideration of the project by the World Bank has been deferred. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency is exploring alternative methods of raising resources from the domestic

market, viz., commercial banks, financial institutes and by way of issues of additional Tax Free Bonds, etc.

[Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources O.M. No. 8/5/98 — P&C
Dated : 21.10.98]

Recommendation (SL No. 17)

However, the Committee are of the view that the realization of important projects are likely to be delayed due to these sanctions.

The Committee, therefore, recommend that a separate Cell may be set up in the Ministry to tackle the sanctions and prioritise the projects of immediate national interest. This cell may also examine the feasibility of private sector participation in various schemes of MNES.

Reply of the Government

On the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Energy for the year 1998-99, the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has set up a Cell under the chairmanship of Secretary, MNES to tackle the impact of sanctions on renewable energy programmes/projects. The terms of reference to the Cell are as follows:

- (i) to make an inventory of the projects affected or likely to be affected by the sanctions imposed by U.S.A. and other countries and to assess the impact of sanctions on them.
- (ii) to prioritize these projects in order of immediate national interest.
- (iii) to suggest alternative methods of raising resources for these projects.
- (iv) to examine the feasibility of private sector participation in various schemes of MNES.

The first meeting of the Cell was held on 10th August, 1998. The main recommendations made by the Cell are :—

- (i) The possibility of loan assistance directly to developers from other Financial Institutions with guarantee from IREDA, needs to be explored.
- (ii) A paper may be prepared on the strategy for enhancing direct foreign investment in renewable energy sector.
- (iii) Efforts may be made to involve public sector undertaking like NHPC, NTPC and also the profit earning private companies in renewable energy sector in a big way.
- (iv) The concessions made for Information Technology may be studied & proposal for similar kind of concessions for renewable energy sector may be prepared.

- (v) In the States where SEBs are undergoing restructuring efforts should be made for introducing renewable energy as an option for demand side management and for decentralised generation and distribution of electricity based on renewable energy sources such as photo-voltaics, small hydro and biomass.

[Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources O.M. No. 8/5/98 — P&C
Dated : 21.10.98]

CHAPTER III

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES

Recommendation (Sl. No. 9)

"The Committee also note with concern the poor percentage of functioning of night soil based plants in various States. The Committee feel that Ministry should ensure continued functioning of the plants already set up and take immediate steps to remove the various bottlenecks for their non-functioning identified by the Agricultural Finance Corporation, Mumbai."

Reply of the Government

The Ministry is requesting State nodal departments and agencies concerned to survey all night-soil based plants set up so far in the respective States/UTs and take action for reviving the non-functional plants with the cooperation of users and wherever feasible hand over the plants to panchayat or local NGO or entrepreneur to operate and maintain the plant on a self-sustaining basis. However, the technical and training support will be continued to be rendered by the State nodal agencies concerned. The plants, which could not be economically repaired or revived should be dismantled and proceeds thereof should be credited to the Government account.

[Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources O.M.No. 8/5/98 — P&C
Dated: 21.10.98]

CHAPTER IV

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

Recommendation (Sl. No. 2)

The Committee fail to understand as to how the Ministry of Finance could impose a cut on the Ministry's budget which has been approved by the Parliament for achieving specific targets.

Reply of the Government (MNES)

The Ministry has conveyed the conclusion/recommendation of Standing Committee on Energy to the Ministry of Finance.

[Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources O.M. NO. 8/5/98 — P&C
Dated: 21.10.98]

Reply of the Ministry of Finance

The budget of a Ministry/Department is discussed finalised and approved by the Ministry of Finance for presenting to Parliament for approval. While it is the responsibility of the Ministry of Finance to present the Demand for Grant of the Ministry/Department concern, it is the duty of the Ministry of Finance to ensure proper utilisation of funds approved by the Parliament with due observance of laid down Rules and procedures. The Parliament's approval is for expenditure on a 'non exceeding basis'. Expenditure incurred within the ceilings prescribed in the Appropriation Act is in conformity with Parliament's approval.

(Please see paragraph 7 of Chapter I of the Report)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 13)

The Small Hydro Projects in decentralized as well as grid connected mode can contribute significantly to meet the overall power requirements of a region. The present Small Hydro Power capacity stands at 155.38 MW from 216 small hydro stations in 24 States. Of these, projects of about 80 MW capacity which were installed up to the end of 7th Plan period are old and most have sub-optimal generation. The Committee note with concern that plants generating almost half of the installed capacity are having sub-optimal generation only and need immediate attention. The Committee are happy to note that the Government have taken up a Scheme of Renovation and Modernisation of Small

Hydro Projects during the 9th Plan with a target of renovating plants generating a total of 30 MW power. the Committee feel that all out efforts should be made to renovate the old plants. The Ministry in the first instance should identify and draw up a list of all such plants which need renovation as at present they have information only about those plants for which renovation proposals have been received from the State Governments. The Government should ensure that Renovation & Modernisation work should be completed within the stipulated period of two years from the date of sanction so as to avoid time and cost overruns. It should also be ensured that only such projects are to be taken up where the cost of renovation remains within reasonable limit.

Reply of the Government

Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources had announced a scheme for financial support to works for Renovation/Modernization and capacity up-rating of Small Hydro Power stations up to 3 MW capacity on 17th June, 1997. The scheme was circulated to all the States and the States were requested to make an assessment of the functionality of such small hydro power stations which are either non-operational or are generating at sub-optimal level. The Ministry has so far received 14 proposals, aggregating to 17.9 MW, for the Renovation & Modernisation of old small hydro power stations. The Ministry has given in principle approval for 7 proposals and the States have been requested to carry out the detailed engineering, firm up costs by obtaining competitive bids.

In view of the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Energy (Third Report), a meeting with State Power Departments, State Electricity Boards and State Nodal Agencies was held on 6th August, 1998 where the status of small hydro power projects was reviewed and States were categorically requested to identify small hydro power stations which need renovation/modernisation. The States were requested to conduct studies to assess performance of old small hydro power stations which can be renovated within the reasonable cost limits and submit the information to the Ministry so as to enable the Ministry to draw a list of all such plants which need renovation. The States were also requested to submit R&M proposals to the Ministry for financial support. The Ministry has received firm up costs for the R&M works for two projects from Sikkim, namely, Jali Power Station (6×350 KW) and Rongnichu-II (5×500 KW). These proposals have been approved by the Project Appraisal Committee for Small Hydro Projects in the Ministry, in its meeting held on 28th August, 1998.

[Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources O.M. No. 8/5/98 — P&C
Dated : 21.10.98]

Comments of the Committee

(Please see paragraph 19 of Chapter I of the Report)

CHAPTER V

**RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT
OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF THE
GOVERNMENT ARE STILL AWAITED**

— Nil —

**NEW DELHI,
27 FEBRUARY, 1999
8 PHALGUNA, 1920 (SAKA)**

**K. KARUNAKARAN
CHAIRMAN,
STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY.**

EXTRACTS OF MINUTES OF THE FIRST SITTING OF SUB-COMMITTEE
ON ACTION TAKEN REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY
(1998-99) HELD ON FEBRUARY 15, 1999

The Sub-Committee met from 15.00 hrs. to 16.00 hrs.

PRESENT

MEMBERS

1. Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad — *Convenor*
2. Shri Sushil Chandra Verma
3. Shri Nuthanna Kalva Ramakrishna Reddy

SECRETARIAT

Shri R.S. Kambo — *Under Secretary*

2. At the outset, the Convenor of the Sub-Committee welcomed the Members of the Sub-Committee to its first sitting.
3. The Sub-Committee then considered the following draft reports:—
 - (i) ** ** **
 - (ii) ** ** **
 - (iii) Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Energy (1998-99) on Demands for Grants (1998-99) of Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources.
 - (iv) ** ** **
4. ** ** **
5. The Draft Report mentioned at (iii) above relating to Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources was adopted by the sub-Committee after substituting "done in consultation with the Ministry concerned" with "with the approval of the Secretary of the Ministry concerned" in the last sentence of paragraph 7 of the Report.
6. The Sub-Committee authorised the Convenor to finalise the reports and submit these to the Chairman for consideration by the Standing Committee on Energy.

The Sub-Committee then adjourned

**Paras 3 (i), (ii) and (iv) and 4 of the minutes relating to consideration and adoption of 3 other Draft Action Taken Reports have not been included.

EXTRACTS OF MINUTES OF THE THIRTEENTH SITTING OF
STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY (1998-99) HELD ON
FEBRUARY 23, 1999

The Committee met from 15.30 hrs. to 16.15 hrs.

PRESENT

Shri K. Karunakaran — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Basudeb Acharia
3. Shri Parasram Bhardwaj
4. Shri K.C. Kondaiah
5. Shri Salkhan Murmu
6. Shri Amar Roy Pradhan
7. Shri Kanumuru Bapi Raju
8. Shri Braj Mohan Ram
9. Shri Anantha Venkatrami Reddy
10. Shri Larang Sai
11. Shri Shailendra Kumar
12. Prof. (Smt.) Rita Verma
13. Shri Jalaludin Ansari
14. Shri Gandhi Azad
15. Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad
16. Shri Brahmakumar Bhatt
17. Shri Bangaru Laxman
18. Shri Ramashanker Kaushik
19. Shri S. Agmiraj

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri John Joseph — *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri P.K. Bhandari — *Deputy Secretary*
3. Shri R.S. Kambo — *Under Secretary*

2. At the outset, the Chairman of the Committee welcomed the Members

of the Committee to its Thirteenth sitting.

3. The Committee then considered the following draft reports—

- | | | | |
|-------|---|----|----|
| (i) | ** | ** | ** |
| (ii) | ** | ** | ** |
| (iii) | Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Energy (1998-99) on Demands for Grants (1998-99) of Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources. | | |
| (iv) | ** | ** | ** |
4. The Committee adopted the aforesaid Draft Reports without any amendments.
5. The Committee also authorised the Chairman to finalise the above mentioned Reports after making consequential changes arising out of factual verification by the concerned Ministry/Department and to present the same to both the Houses of Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned

** Sub-para (i), (ii) and (iv) of Paragraph 3 relating to other Reports have not been included.

(Iide Para 4 of Introduction)

**ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE THIRD REPORT
(1998-99) OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY
(TWELFTH LOK SABHA)**

| | | |
|------|--|-----|
| I. | Total No. of Recommendations made | 17 |
| II. | Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government (<i>vide</i> recommendations at Sl. No.1,3,4,5,6,7,8,10,11,12,14,15,16 and 17) | 14 |
| | Percentage to total | 82 |
| III. | Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies (<i>vide</i> recommendations at Sl. No. 9) | 1 |
| | Percentage to total | 6 |
| IV. | Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee (<i>vide</i> recommendations at Sl. No. 2 & 13) | 2 |
| | Percentage to total | 12 |
| V. | Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited | Nil |