

(b) if so, the number of scientists who have left the Cement Research Institute during the last three years; and

(c) the reasons therefor and the action taken by Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Eleven scientists have left National Council for Cement and Building Materials (formerly called Cement Research Institute of India) during the last three years.

(c) Except one scientist who reported that he had resigned for taking up appointment in the Ministry of Environment and another who expired in a rail accident, all other scientists left National Council for Cement and Building Materials for personal/family reasons.

[English]

#### Foreign Exchange for Panchet Dam

7988. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the commissioning of the Panchet Dam of the Damodar Valley Corporation is now likely to be delayed due to the Corporation being unable to pay the Austrian experts working on the site in foreign exchange;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to tide over this situation; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange involved and the difficulties in arranging the same?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). The spin-

ning of the second unit of the reversible pump generating unit of 40 MW at Panchet was achieved on 31st March, 1990; however, the tail pool dam necessary for the reversible operation of the unit is yet to be completed due to problems in land acquisition.

#### Energy Requirement for Rural Areas in Eighth Plan

7989. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state whether Government have formulated their policy on energy requirements for rural areas in Eighth Plan Period?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): The Eighth Plan is yet to be finalised by the Planning Commission.

[Translation]

#### Purchase of Equipment by DESU

7990. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the newsitem published in 'Jansatta' dated 30 March, 1990 wherein it has been stated that loss of crores of rupees has been incurred by DESU due to the burning of important equipments of 30 grid sub-stations during the last one year;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made in this regard and if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure purchase to good quality equipments in future?