141 Written Answers

Harnessing of Wind Energy in Gujarat

1924. SHRI VAMANRAO MAHADIK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent experiment to produce power with wind mills in Gujarat has proved successful;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to use this method in some other parts of the country; and

(c) the names of other non-conventional sources of energy being used at present for generating power in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI BABANRAO DHAKANE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The total wind power capacity established in the country stands at 34 MW. This includes 12 wind farm demonstration projects of aggregate capacity 31.4 MW set up in 7 States, including Gujarat. The cumulative genera-' tion from the wind farm projects has reached 6.1 crore units. The total installed capacity in Gujarat is 14 MW and about 2 crore units have been fed to the State Grid. The demonstration projects have shown that wind power generation is viable, takes a short time to install and commission, and can supplement conventional power.

(c) Demonstration projects based on solar photovoltaics and biomass energy conversion are under implementation for decentralised power generation, in different parts of the country. Experimental Power plants based on solar thermal energy and agricultural wastes have also been taken up. [Translation]

Rallway Line From Guwahati to Tinsukhia

1925. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of RAIL-WAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether demands had been made for the construction of broad-guage rail line from Guwahati to Tinsukhia;

(b) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to acute constraint of resources and heavy commitments in hand, the Planning Commission has not agreed to take up this project at present.

[English]

Ghaziabad Rail Terminal

1926. SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make Ghaziabad a rail terminal; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Setting up of a Thermal Power Station at Katihar in Bihar

1927. SHRI YUVRAJ: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a thermal power station at Katihar in Bihar;

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI BABANRAO DHAKANE): (a) to (c). The Central Electricity Authority have not received any proposal for setting up a thermal power station at Katihar in Bihar.

[English]

Group 'A' Officers on Railways

1928. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the total number of Group 'A' officers on the Indian Railways gradewise, department-wise, and zone-wise showing the strength of RDSO, Railway Board and other units separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS): Information is being collected an will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Overbridge between Jalandhar and Jalandhar Cantt.

1929. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for construction of an overbridge across the main line between Jalandhar and Jalandhar Cantt. railway stations on road leading to Hoshiarpur in place of the existing level crossing near Rama Mandi Chowk near Jalandhar Cantt. railway station; (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the work will be undertaken and completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (c). The State Government had initiated a proposal for the road overbridge a few years ago, but they have not yet finalised the scheme for the work, accorded priority and sponsored it to the Railways for inclusion in the Works Programme.

Price Preference to the SSI sector

1930. SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Small Scale Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association has pointed out that the Directorate General of Supply and Disposar was not complying with the Government orders of giving 15 per cent price preference to the SSI sector in Government purchase;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take for the redressal of their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIA-MENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA): (a) No such complaint appears to have been received.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Review of National Energy Policy

1931. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state: