

dedicating his life for the cause of the country including eradication of communalism and untouchability; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). While no commemorative stamp on rural poor as such has been issued, the Department of Posts, has however, since independence, commemorated a number of illustrious personalities, who dedicated their entire lives for the upliftment of the rural poor, including eradication of communalism and untouchability, like Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi, Acharya Vinoba Bhave, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, E.V. Ramasami, Jayaprakash Narayan, Kamraj, etc. Several themes, which are relevant to the upliftment of the rural poor have also been depicted on Indian postage stamps, like Charkha, Panchayati Raj, Centenary of the Postcard, etc. The theme of the 6th Definitive Series of Indian Postage Stamps was Agriculture and Rural Development.

International Symposium on Automation and Instrumentation for Power Plants

*912. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the recommendations made by the International Symposium on Automation and Instrumentation for Power Plants held in Bangalore on 15 December, 1986; and

(b) the action proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The main recommendations made at the Symposium relate to introduction of computer based techniques in power stations, the need for strengthening transmission systems and reducing T & D losses, strengthening of load despatch facilities, introduction of modern load management techniques,

inter-connected grid operations, improving training facilities, and closer interaction between R&D institutions and State Electricity Boards, etc.

(b) Improvements in the automation and instrumentation of power plants is a continuing process and the recommendations of the Symposium in this regard have been noted.

[*Translation*]

Utilisation of Power Generation Capacity in Bihar

*915. SHRI KUNWAR RAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which power generation capacity of various power plants in Bihar has been utilised during 1986-87;

(b) whether this was less or more than the national average;

(c) the steps being taken for maximum utilisation of their capacity;

(d) whether Bihar State Electricity Board will be able to mobilise adequate resources to increase power generation in Bihar; and

(e) the losses suffered by the Bihar State Electricity Board in 1986-87?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). During 1986-87 the Plant Load Factor of thermal stations in Bihar was 33.3% as compared with the all-India average 53.2%. The capacity utilisation of hydro stations mainly depends on their reservoir levels.

(c) and (d). The measures taken for maximum utilisation of existing thermal capacity include implementation of a renovation and modernisation programme, early stabilisation of newly commissioned units, training of power station personnel, improved supply of coal, spare parts and implementation of modern techniques of