

deliberation in the symposium to Government; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto and steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No formal recommendations have been made by the Symposium. However, a resume of the points made during the symposium is given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The points made during the symposium are being studied. Appropriate action on most of these points is, however, already under way.

#### *Statement*

- (1) There is scope for improvement in operation techniques and maintenance procedures for improving efficiency and availability of units.
- (2) There is need to economise in use of oil due to the escalation of fuel oil prices.
- (3) The Boilers Act should be amended to reduce the frequency of statutory inspection in case of large utility boilers, to increase availability.
- (4) There is need to improve the quality of coal supplied to power stations, and penalty for default should be applicable to nationalised mining agencies as in the case of private mines prior to nationalisation.
- (5) Greater attention should be paid to develop and use erosion resistant materials for parts subject to erosion.
- (6) Availability of both imported and indigenous spares should be improved.
- (7) Adequate powers both administrative and financial should be delegated to the authorities in charge of construction/operation of power stations consistent with the responsibilities they are called upon to discharge.
- (8) Facilities should be provided for the training of operation and maintenance staff, through refresher courses, exchange of practical views and information or data.
- (9) Suitable incentives should be given to the operation and maintenance staff in the thermal power stations in recognition of their arduous duties and to attract competent personnel to work in these stations.
- (10) Common pools of spare parts may be built up at the national and regional levels to reduce the over all inventory cost.
- (11) Meticulous efficiency control and preventive maintenance would improve availability, peaking capability and the economics of the stations.
- (12) Pit head super-stations should be set up to overcome difficulties in wagon availability in transportation of coal.
- (13) A Central agency like the C.E.A. should examine at the National level the common problems faced by power stations to evolve suitable remedial measures.

#### **Alleged Conspiracy to form a Christian State in Eastern Region**

\*239. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:  
SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received reports that some foreign

missionaries are hatching a conspiracy to form a Christian State in the Eastern Region of the country;

(b) if so, whether any steps have since been taken by Government to curb the plan of such foreign missionaries; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) General vigilance, however is being maintained in the interest of security and public order.

#### Requirements of Power in States

\*240. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken into consideration the present power requirements of each of the States;

(b) if so, the total requirements thereof;

(c) the total units of power available for each of the States at present; and

(d) the necessary steps Government have suggested to the States to formulate power generation schemes to meet the shortages?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The estimated power requirements, availability and shortfall in million units per day during February, 1975 State-wise are given in statement I laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT-9091/75]

(d) The Draft Fifth Five Year Plan envisages creation of an additional generating capacity of 16.5 million KW by the end of the Plan; details of which are given in state-

ment II laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No LT-9091/75.] With this additional generating capacity, realisation of the maximum possible generation from the thermal stations for which concrete measures have been suggested to the States, and integrated operation of the different States and regional power systems, the power demands are expected to be met.

#### Coordinated National Policy for Essential Articles of Mass Consumption

\*241 SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI:  
SHRI SHIV SHANKAR  
PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to this policy; and

(a) whether Government are going to evolve a coordinated national policy covering production of essential articles of mass consumption in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof, and the various items that have been covered by this policy;

(c) whether a conference of Food and Civil Supply Ministers was held at Cochin in February, 1975 to discuss this policy; and

(d) if so, the main decisions arrived thereat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (d). The extension and strengthening of the public distribution system according to priority and essential needs of the vulnerable and poor sections of the population was discussed with Ministers for Food, Civil Supplies and Cooperation of the State Governments at four Regional Conferences of States and Union Territories in the Northern and Central Region, Eastern and North-Eastern Region, Western Region and the Southern Region. The Con-