

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-

ference for States and Union Territories of the Southern Region was held at Cochin on 4th February, 1975. The consensus was that the initial priorities should be in respect of distribution of commodities of basic necessity, namely, foodgrains including coarse grains and pulses where necessary, sugar standard cloth, vanaspati including edible oils, cheap fuel (soft coke and kerosene) and salt in vulnerable areas like metropolitan and large urban areas, labour concentrations, in mining, industrial and plantation areas, district headquarters, hill areas and rural areas in districts which are chronically scarcity affected or deficit. The demand for commodities like pulses in the Eastern and South-Eastern Zones; coarse grains in the nil areas and in Maharashtra and Gujarat; mustard oil in West Bengal; and salt in the Eastern and North-Eastern Zones will have to be met specially. It was also recommended that effective measures should be taken to ensure equitable distribution of cement, paper and stationery for students, diesel oil for agricultural purposes, essential drugs, soap, matches, baby food, tyres and tubes, common footwear and soda ash.

Exploitation of New Coal Mines in Districts Purulia and Bankura in West Bengal

2191. SHRI S. N SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether no new coal mines have been exploited during the current year;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the action taken up-to-date in exploiting the new coal mines in the Districts of Purulia and Bankura in West Bengal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY: (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House as and when received.

Coal Production in Fifth Plan

2192. SHRI TUNA ORAON: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Fifth Plan target of coal production is to the tune of 143 million tonnes; and

(b) if so, the expected achievement during the first year of the Fifth Plan ending in the next March?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY: (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Coal Programme, as included in the Draft Fifth Five Year Plan, envisages coal production of 135 million tonnes by 1978-79. The expected achievement during the first year of Fifth Plan is about 88 million tonnes/day.

पोंग बांध से पानी निकलना

2193. श्री लालजी भाई : क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पोंग बांध की एक सुरंग के दरवाजे की टटी हुई सील में मे दो-तीन माह तक बराबर बांध का पानी गिरता रहा किन्तु इसे ठीक नहीं किया गया ;

(ख) क्या इस प्रकार की दरारों से लगभग 6 हजार क्यूसेक पानी गिर रहा है और इस प्रकार पोंग बांध का काम करीब ए. 10 वर्ष पीछे रह गया है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

ऊर्जा मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री० सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद): (क) से (ग). पोंग बांध