

(b) the amount which has been used for supplying power for irrigation; and

(c) the rates at which power is being supplied to industry, irrigation and household consumption separately, for each State ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : (a) and (b). The Total amount invested on power generation and supply upto the end of 1967-68 is estimated at Rs. 3205 crores. Out of this amount, Rs. 372 crores were spent on Rural Electrification which includes outlay on supplying power for irrigation and energising agricultural pumping sets.

(c) A statement giving the rates of supply of power to various categories of consumers in different States is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library See No. LT-2140/68].

#### NOMADIC TRIBES

\*172. SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL : Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have drawn up any scheme to settle down the Nomadic Tribes; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in that direction so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (DR. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Scheme for the purpose have been incorporated in all the five-year plans.

#### SHALLOW WATER DRILLING OFF CAMBAY BY JAPAN

\*173. SHRI S. P. RAMAMOORTHY :  
SHRI R. K. AMIN :  
SHRI N. K. SOMANI :  
SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to entrust shallow water drilling off Cambay to a team of Japanese experts;

(b) if so, whether an agreement to this effect was earlier signed with the Russians; and

(c) whether the new agreement with the Japanese is in addition to the Russian agreement or in place of the Russian agreement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI RAGHU RAMALAH) : (a) to (c). Several offers of assistance in offshore drilling have been received so far but no agreement as such has been signed with any party. The ONGC propose to conduct drilling in shallow waters in the Gulf of Cambay on their own. In this connection, they are in correspondence with the Soviet authorities for needed assistance. The offer of a Japanese party is for the construction and sale to the Commission of a suitable offshore drilling platform/ship only for drilling in deeper waters for operating it in the initial period and for training ONGC personnel. The appropriate type of platform/ship required for our purposes is under study in this context and with reference to certain other proposals also received.

#### BEAS DAM REHABILITATION COMMITTEE

\*174. SHRI HEM RAJ : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1378 on the 29th July, 1968 and state :

(a) whether the proposal to reconstitute the Beas Dam Rehabilitation Committee have been finalised; and

(b) if not, when it will be finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Formal orders in this regard are being issued shortly.

#### DISRUPTION OF POWER SUPPLY DUE TO STRIKE IN WEST BENGAL

\*175. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :  
SHRI RAM AVTAR SHARMA :  
SHRI SHIV KUMAR SHASTRI :  
SHRI Y. A. PRASAD :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the power supply in West Bengal was seriously disrupted during the recent strike by the State Electricity Board employees thus causing great hardship to the people;