

due to poor equipment is higher when compared with developed countries, or when compared with what is permitted—there is a permitted loss. Is it higher? That was my first question. He did not answer it.

My second supplementary is that in view of this loss of energy, I would like to know what steps you are taking to promote the use of non-conventional energy, especially solar energy, then comes the wind energy, tidal energy, etc. What are the steps you are taking to propagate the use of this energy?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : The transmission losses in our country are very high. As I said during the discussion on the Demands for Grants, it is 21% compared to average maximum of about 8 to 10 per cent in other countries.

You have asked sectorwise what is the loss and have we made a study. So I was replying to that.

Therefore, the best way to do it is to save on the transmission loss. That is only one aspect. In industrial uses, in actual use, there is so much loss because of inefficient use of machinery and power. For example, pump sets, etc. There, I said an overall 10% power can be conserved by having better pumps sets.

As far as non-conventionnal sources of energy are concerned, as I submitted the other day, the best way to energise and make our rural areas energy sufficient is to resort to an integrated energy concept of using non-conventional sources of energy and that is why we have given the concept of Urja Gram based on the use of non-conventional sources of energy like biogas, biomass, solar, wind where wind is available and such similar non-conventional sources of energy.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : It is generally said that the line losses are large with regard to electricity and power thefts are also becoming more and more. There is political power theft also. As far as electricity is concerned, power thefts are more. Supposing you are able to control power thefts and also the line losses, we can give electricity free to the poor agriculturists, I want to know whether such

a scheme can be implemented and whether the Government of India is going to introduce in such a manner that free supply of power will be given to the agriculturists by controlling the line losses and also the power thefts.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Line losses, as I said in the beginning, are the same as transmission losses. They are to be controlled and they can be locally controlled. But it is mainly for the States to take measures to do that, because the major part of production and distribution is taking place in the State sector. Therefore, if they take those measures, yes, as far as free power is concerned, it is for them to decide if they save on power, whether they can give power cheaper or free. But I do not particularly like the idea of giving anything free....

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : For poor agriculturists. It is a major input for agriculture.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : It is morally demoralising to give man anything free.

As far as political power is concerned, there also theft is taking place and as to what measures should be taken, you should know better.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : There you are their allies for taking away power.

West German Know-How for Development of Medicines

*687. **SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to have a tie up with West Germany for the development of medicines and to acquire the latest know-how in this field; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) There is no such proposal with my Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : I want to know if there is any proposal with this Ministry for collaboration, if not with West Germany, with any other foreign country. At the same time I would also like to know this : if there is no proposal with this Ministry, is there any proposal, in his knowledge, which is with the Ministry of Health.

SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : In the Ministry of Chemicals and Petro-Chemicals, there are two proposals for foreign collaboration, that is, a private company by name M.B. and Company, Ahmedabad, sought permission for production of sterile surgical sutures with M/s. Wolf Birkmaier of West Germany; the second thing M/s. Pefco Foundry and Chemicals Ltd., Pune, has also asked for a foreign collaboration with Dynamit Nobel of West Germany in the manufacture of Ethoxy Methylene Malonic Ester, which is known as EMME. Production in both cases has not started. But we have given permission to go in for foreign collaboration.

Another matter which has come to the notice of the Government does not pertain to the Ministry of Industry. There is a proposal by a private company called AMC Ayur Medica comprising of a few doctors and scientists in West Germany; they have asked for a tie-up in production of Ayurvedic drugs. Nothing much has been done except that they would like to go in for a pilot project in Tamil Nadu and Kerala and in the Himalayan slopes. Nothing much has been done in this regard.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : The hon. Minister will agree when I say that homeopathy is becoming very popular, particularly in West Germany. Will the Government consider or the Ministry consider the desirability of having a tie-up for the development of homoeopathic medicines with West Germany ?

SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : Firstly, this will have to be answered by

the Ministry of Health. Secondly, as I said, nothing has come up at the level of Government; it is only in the private sector.

SHRI C.P. THAKUR : Biotechnology is the latest in the field of manufacture of many drugs like vaccines and hormones and many drugs used in diagnostics. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is exploring that field of biotechnology in the manufacture of medicine in India in collaboration with any foreign country.

SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : We would welcome the suggestion of the hon. Member.

Telephone Connections in Trivandram

*690. **SHRI T. BASHEER :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) how many telephone exchanges are there in Trivandrum Telephone District as on date;

(b) the number of telephone connections in each exchange;

(c) how many persons are still waiting for telephone connections in each exchange;

(d) how many cases are more than three years old in each exchange among them; and

(e) the number of exchanges to be expanded during the next financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) There are 3 (Three) Telephone exchanges as on 31.3.1986 in Trivandrum Telephone District.