

limited. They have those limitations. Keeping those limitations in view they have to frame their programmes. We do want that apart from the dominant language of the particular State there should be some programme in other languages also. This is the problem not only with one State but this is the problem in almost every State of this country. In every State, in every village there are people who speak more than one language. Our intention is, subject to the availability of equipment, resources and personnel, to increase the regional transmission so that we can satisfy some linguistic group to some extent. But I cannot at this time say on which particular station which linguistic language is being telecast. We are for the development of all the languages. It is a time consuming process. Finally, in the shape of things, it takes a long time to develop in that way.

#### Losses in DESU

\*810. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the losses incurred by the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90; and

(b) the steps taken so far to check the losses and the results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI):

(a) According to the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking losses are as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Losses (Rs. in crores)</i>
1987-88 (Prov.)	208.73
1988-89 (Prov.)	201.80
1989-90 (Estimated)	238.98

(b) DESU have initiated action to bring about improvement in their operation by better inventory control, reduction in operational costs, reduction of T&D losses, spe-

cial drive to check theft of power, better capacity utilisation, recovery of outstanding dues and improvement in public relations.

DR. A.K. PATEL: Sir, According to the reply of the Hon. Minister during the first three years the loss is more than Rs. 700 crores. As I know, I have got information with me, it is even more than Rs. 1000 crores. DESU has totally become bankrupt. The World Bank has refused to pay any loan to DESU. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether attention has been drawn to the following allegations against the General Manager by the DESU Engineer's Association. The first allegation is...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Why are you mentioning about the allegations?

DR. A.K. PATEL: Sir because it has suffered losses. These losses are due to the corruption and that is why I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister the allegations made by the Engineers' Association of DESU.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You call it a Performance Report.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are you putting question or making a Statement here?

DR. A.K. PATEL: I want to know from the Hon. Minister what steps is he going to take to bring down the corruption and in turn the great losses of DESU, and particularly to see the corruption of the General Manager and other officers.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, DESU is in loss because the tariff in Delhi is the lowest in India. The cost of fuel and the cost of coal is increasing but we have not increased tariff. Power theft was there in Delhi. When this gentleman came there was a big drive to check it and about 350 persons were arrested. Many persons who were running the cold storage were put behind the bars. In the last five years, this year the highest recovery...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please or-

der, order.

**SHRI KALPNATH RAI:** The highest revenue realisation of Rs. 368 crores has taken place this year. The Recovery Plan is under consideration. The Government of India is going to take some step to get the recovery. The matter is under consideration. The Transmission Stations are under construction; transmission lines are being erected. 1250 MW power is needed for Delhi in the summer. 135 MW is added by Rajghat. The situation in Delhi has improved considerably and the Government is trying its best to improve the situation.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:** Is it under the notice of the Government as to how many times power cuts are made in Delhi? Nowadays in Ramzans' month power supply is being suspended for 10 to 20 hours in a day and the hon. Minister is defending the General Manager. How can it be said that the General Manager is unaware of all these things?

[*English*]

**DR. A.K. PATEL:** Sir, I am happy to learn that the tariff in Delhi is low, whereas the tariff in Gujarat is the highest in whole of India. I would like to know whether our Minister will instruct the Gujarat Electricity Board to bring down the tariff in Gujarat State.

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE):** Sir, actually if you see the figures in the Metropolitan cities, in Madras it is 55 paise for domestic consumption, in Bombay it is 78 paise, in Calcutta it is 59.22 paise, in Ahmedabad it is 84.53 paise per unit domestic consumption and in Delhi it is 45 paise which is the lowest, because of pressures. I have been saying that most of the State Electricity Boards in the country are running in losses. Why? This is because the State Governments force them to sell power lower than their cost of price...(*Interruptions*)

First, let us take the cost. Recently, I have said here that anything that is called as T and D loss is nothing but theft. We have passed Acts here as also in the States and we are trying our best to see that the T and D loss is minimised. But, let us consider the reality of the situation. If any of the State Electricity Board has to sell power—whether for agriculture or domestic consumption or industries—at lower than the cost, who should subsidise that? Let the State Government subsidise. Why do you want to make the State Electricity Boards run in losses and demoralise the State Electricity Boards? This leads to greater corruption, whether it is DESU, Delhi or any other State Electricity Board. My submission is that this is a wrong policy. While in Delhi, DESU sells power at 45 paise per unit for domestic consumption as against 84 paise or 60 paise or 78 paise in Bombay, Calcutta and Ahmedabad, how can they ever make profit? when you see losses, pounce on them, the General Manager etc. and say that they are responsible for the losses.

Sir, as far as inefficiency is concerned, I have stated, let us give the devil its due. Earlier, Hon. Members were disturbed and said that in the case of DESU, the management was responsible to a large extent in not recovering the dues and not being firm with the people. Let us go by the results and see the performance of the present management and the present General Manager. I will answer your question, don't worry.

(*Interruptions*)

Let us first judge them by the facts and then come to the conclusion. Under the present management, upto January, 1988 theft cases were 2,176 and misuse of excess loads were 2,092. Now, let us see the recoveries of revenue realisation. If you take from 1983-84 onwards, from Rs. 150 crores, it has gone upto Rs. 325 crores, Rs. 324 crores and Rs. 368 crores in the last three years. So, we can see that they are making efforts to improve the situation. The moment you try to be firm, the vested interests get agitated. These vested interests who are the

engineers are hand in glove with the people who steal. No theft can take place if the officers are not hand in glove with those people who steal electricity. Therefore, it is the officers who do this mischief.

**SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:** The General Manager himself is responsible.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** The General Manager himself does not distribute power. If people who are lower below do it, you should not get up and defend those engineers who are responsible for committing thefts. This is what I want to say in this House. Therefore, let us not blame the General Manager only.

**SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:** You are defending the General Manager.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** Nobody defends any wrong doer. If somebody is trying to do something good, do not defend those people who are doing wrong. After all, facts speak for themselves. *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

**SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I listened to the speech of the hon. Minister and was impressed. As regards the losses incurred by DESU, the management and the General Manager himself is responsible for it. It is very unfortunate that during the Ramzan days, electricity is not available for 20 hours in a day. It is also regretful that the water pumps have no power on the day Holi is celebrated in Delhi. If the management is to be blamed, then General Manager should be held responsible for it. The actual reason behind the losses is that no physical verification is made of the materials purchased and taken on charge. No record of stock taking and the items released for utilisation etc. is maintained which may bring into light the extent of bungling there. This is the main reason behind these losses. When meters get burnt, no action is taken against the suppliers of such defective meters because they are in collusion with the DESU officials right from the lowest to the

highest level. May I know the number of people apprehended out of the list which has been just read out? It is mostly the poor people, the slum dwellers and the hawkers against whom such cases have been filed. There is no case against any big industrialist or factory owner. Their metres are backed. I would like to know whether any committee has ever been set up to investigate into the reasons and to assess the extent of the loss suffered by DESU; who is responsible for it and has any action taken against such persons? At least the General Manager should be transferred because he is incapable of managing the power supply in Delhi.

**SHRI KALPNATH RAI:** Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to submit, the hon. Members of opposition may also take note of it, that since the General Manager has taken charge of the management here, the situation has improved considerably...*(Interruptions)*...

**SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:** You are not aware of the position at all...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Allegations will not go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

**SHRI KALPNATH RAI:** There has been improvement. Rs. 368 crores have been recovered this year. The arrests made in connection with power thefts have been the highest this year as compared to the records of the last five years. Since the present General Manager took charge last year, 22 thousand unauthorised connections have been disconnected and connections of 12 furnaces have also been disconnected. The cold storage owners have been arrested with the help of the CBI...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

**SHRI M.R. SAIKIA:** How many persons

have been punished?

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALPNATH RAI: If you are arrested on the charge of the murder, due punishment will be awarded...The question is that when a person is arrested, a charge sheet is prepared and he is put under trial. However, they have got reputed lawyers to defend them...(*Interruptions*)...What will be the result? Therefore, I am saying that efforts are being made to improve the situation in Delhi. The whole management is making efforts in this direction. 135 MW have been added. Capacitors have been connected with the transmission lines. Recovery is being made rapidly. The Government is making all out efforts to fulfill the power requirements of the capital. The present situation will not continue for long and there shall be considerable improvement in it.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Next question, Dr. Samant.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: I want to put a question on this subject.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. I have called Shri Wadiyar.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: How can you deny my right Sir? I have kept my hand raised for more than half an hour. I want to have an half an hour discussion on this subject. Will you allow it?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will consider it.

#### **Watch Factory in collaboration with Japan**

\*816. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Ministry of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a letter of intent has been issued for setting up a watch factory in col-

laboration with Japan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the location of the project, its capacity and the time by which it would start production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

#### **STATEMENT**

(a) and (b). M/s Copwud Orient Watches Limited, Bombay have been granted an approval for foreign collaboration with M/s Orient Watch Company of Japan and a registration with the Directorate General of Technical Development in December, 1988 and April, 1989, respectively, for the establishment of a new undertaking at Silvassa in the Union territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, for the manufacture of quartz analogue wrist watches and quartz analogue watch movements for an annual capacity of 10 lakh Nos. According to the Registration application, the time required for the implementation of the project has been shown as twelve months.

SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: According to the Statement laid on the Table of the House by the Minister, M/s. Copwud Orient Watches Limited, have been granted an approval for foreign collaboration with M/s Orient Watch Company of Japan for setting up a factory at Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister what would be the cost of setting up the watch manufacturing unit, whether the Japanese are going to participate financially.

If so, what would be the extent of foreign exchange involved in having this collaboration and whether the Minister envisage any export from this collaboration? What would be the employment potential?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, the total investment proposed is about Rs. 1137