

[22 December, 1999]

RAJYA SABHA

(b) whether Government would contemplate to conduct an inquiry by a Joint Parliamentary Committee to look into this planned strategy of changing the structure of Tehri town; and

(c) if so, by when, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) No special importance or favour has been given by THDC to the people of any particular community of Old Tehri Town in allotment of land for their religious places. Construction of all the religious buildings in lieu of structures existing in the Old Tehri Town have been done in accordance with the provisions of the prevailing Rehabilitation Policy which provides that the religious places would be constructed by the project to the extent possible. Keeping in view the requirements of the affected population, excepting where compensation for the existing structures of places of worship in Old Tehri Town has been taken from the THDC. Religious places of all the communities are being constructed in New Tehri Town in the same number as are existing in Old Tehri.

In the New Tehri Town, so far an amount of Rs. 2.34 crores has been spent on the construction of religious places, including Temples and two Mosques, in lieu of those existing in the Old Tehri Town.

(b) and (c): There is no such proposal under consideration.

Pending Proposals for Power Projects

2249. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) which States are facing acute power crises;

(b) whether the proposal to set up some power plants in those states are pending with Government;

(c) if so, at what stages; and

(d) the steps taken to clear those projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) During the period April - November, 1999, three states namely Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh and Goa faced energy shortage of more than 10%

(b) to (d) Only two schemes pertaining to the State of Uttar Pradesh are pending for techno-economic clearance in Central Electricity Authority as on 30.11.1999. The details of these schemes, namely, Name of the project, Installed capacity and status are given below:-

State	Scheme	Capacity (MW)	Date of receipt of DPR in CEA	Status
U.P.	Jawaharpur TPP (M/s Jawaharpur Power India Pvt. Ltd., Private Sector)	2x400=800	26.12.1996	IPC issued on 16.8.95 - Pending inputs/clearances: (i) Water availability. (CWC, CGWB). (ii) Land availability. (iii) State Government recommendation on DPR/Cost.
U.P.	Maneri Bhali Stage-II HEP (State Sector)	4x76=304	August, 1998	Considered by SPAC on 5.11.99 & recommended for TEC.

Scam in rural development plans in Assam

2250. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the extent of annual assistance given by the Centre to Assam Government for its rural development programmes;

(b) whether it is a fact that scam has been discovered recently in the rural development plans, involving over a hundred crores of rupees;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what is the reaction of Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA):

(a) The Central assistance provided to Assam for implementation of programmes of rural development and poverty alleviation in the years 1997-98 and 1998-99 was Rupees 234.62 crores and Rupees 424.94 crores respectively.

(b) to (d) Government is not aware of any scam in the implementation of these programmes in Assam.

Agricultural production for rural development

†2251. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that growth rate of agricultural production in the country needs to be increased for rural development;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.