

global agencies for the development of new and renewable sources of energy.

(b) 83 projects have been taken up with external financial assistance in the areas of wind energy, solar photo-voltaics and small hydel projects.

Out of these 83 projects, five have been completed, while the rest of the projects are in various stages of completion.

(c) During the 8th Five Year Plan, MNES has supported 157 projects on R&D in the area of new and renewable sources of energy. A5 KW Polymer Electrolyte Fuel Cell (PEFC) has been developed and tested by the SPIC Science Foundation at Madras. A hydrogen/hydride- fueled prototype motorcycle (1 HP, 4-stroke, 100 cc) has also been developed and tested on road conditions.

The first prototype of 150 KW Wave Energy Plant was installed at Vizhinjam with the support of Department of Ocean Development (DOD) and involvement of Ocean Engineering Centre at the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, and declared as a National Test Site. After evaluation of the performance of the plant, a new power module of 55 KW rating with an improved air turbine and a variable speed induction generator was installed in April, 1996.

The Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) has been funding projects in the area of photo-voltaics, wind energy, biomethanation and batteries. In the area of photo-voltaics, small area silicon solar cells with 16% efficiency and large area crystalline solar cells with 13% efficiency have been developed.

In the area of Wind Energy, National Aerospace Laboratory has designed a wind mill, and the associated battery charges, which after installation have provided valuable inputs for performance evaluation leading to design modifications. In the area of biomethanation, a pilot plant for the treatment of 50 cubic metre/ day waste water has been set up at Government Medical College, Nagpur. In the area of batteries, a technology for 12 V/100 Ah maintenance free laid acid battery has been developed at Central Electrochemical Research Institute (CECRI), Karaikudi.

During the 8th Five Year Plan, Development of Science & Technology (DST) embarked upon setting up several demonstration units of micro-hydel stations based on cross flow turbine technology developed at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. Till date, nine such units have been commissioned with capacities ranging between 10 KW to 100 KW in UP, Kerala, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh.

Involvement of DDA Engineers in Scam

2879. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appeared in the Times of India, dated 21st July, 1996, regarding the DDA Engineer Member involved in scam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted into the allegations; and

(d) if so, the details of the findings thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT & MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) No press report regarding "The PDA Engineer Member involved in scam" has been noticed in the Times of India dated 21.7.1996.

(b) to (d) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Per Mega Watt cost of Electricity Generation

2880. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the cost per Mega Watt (MW) of electricity generation projected in Ninth Five Year Plan and the total amount of money required to reach the targeted 55,000 MWs in the Plan period;

(b) whether Government are aware that investment for every MW calls for equal or more investment in Transmission and Distribution System; and

(c) if so, what would be the source of funding?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) The targets for the Ninth Five Year Plan are yet to be finalised. The cost per MW for power projects is project specific as it depends on various factors. The requirement of funds could be indicated only on finalisation of the Ninth Plan.

(b) and (c) Matching investment for transmission and distribution would also be considered while finalising the Plan. All possible sources of finances, including private investment and external assistance, would need to be explored.

Development of North Eastern Region and Coastal Areas

2881. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY. Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have initiated any special programmes for economic development of the North Eastern Region, including Assam, and the Coastal areas, particularly Pondicherry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any move to repeal IMDT Act, 1983, to stop influx of foreigners into our country; and

(d) if so, the measures being taken to protect genuine Indian citizens from harassment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) Government of India have recently announced

new initiatives for the North-Eastern (NE) region which inter-alia include the following:—

1. A high-level Commission has been set up to examine the gaps in important sectors as well as the backlog in Basic Minimum Services. Recommendations of this Commission would be considered for formulation of specific programmes and funding arrangements for the development of NE States in the Ninth Five Year Plan.
2. A high-level expert committee has been set up to examine all aspects of problem pertaining to educated unemployed and to suggest specific steps to promote their employment.
3. All central ministries/departments will earmark at least 10% of their budget for specific programmes in the NE States.
4. The Border Area Development Programme and Border Road Programme will be extended to some more areas on the Indo Myanmar border.

As regards coastal areas (including Pondicherry) various development programmes are being implemented in these areas but no special programme has been initiated by Central Government specifically for them.

(c) and (d) Proposals have been received from various quarters for the repeal of the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983. No decision in the matter has yet been taken.

पावर ग्रिड कारपोरेशन द्वारा “इमरजेन्सी रिस्टोरेशन सिस्टम” खरीद जाना

2882. श्री राघवजी: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) पावर ग्रिड कारपोरेशन ने हाल में किससे, कब और कितनी कीमत का “इमरजेन्सी रिस्टोरेशन सिस्टम” खरीदा है;