

Cutting of Power supply by NHPC to SEBS

*310. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have authorised the National Hydro Power Corporation to cut power supply to the defaulting State Electricity Boards;

(b) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the outstanding dues of each SEB and its probable effect on their functioning; and

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken to ensure timely payment of dues by SEBs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) The allocation of power of various States /Union Territories from the power stations of the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) is, inter-alia, subject to the condition that in case of failure of the beneficiary to ensure timely payment, NHPC may shut off or restrict power supply to it and advise the concerned Regional Electricity Board to re-allocate the surplus power to other beneficiaries. Accordingly, when a beneficiary is not able to liquidate the arrears in spite of persistent requests and follow-up, NHPC may consider regulating supply of power, subject to considerations, of grid security. The outstanding dues of NHPC from the SEBs as on 30.6.1996 are shown in the statement (*See below*)

(c) The steps being taken for getting arrears cleared from the defaulting SEBs

include, constant follow-up at various levels, persuading the SEBs to open Letters of Credit and to execute commercial agreements in favour of NHPC for purchase of power, and recovery of the outstanding amount in instalments through the Central Plan Allocation of the defaulting States.

Statement

Sl No	Name of the State Electricity Board/State	(Rs in Crores) Outstanding dues (As on 30.6.1996)
1	Assam	22.16
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.88
3	Bihar	1.71
4	Haryana	170.49
5	Himachal Pradesh	12.66
6	Jammu & Kashmir	45.84
7	Manipur	5.86
8	Meghalaya	0.15
9	Mizoram	1.79
10	Nagaland	3.62
11	Punjab	35.80
12	Rajasthan	11.71
13	Uttar Pradesh	167.07
14	West Bengal	2.10
15	Delhi Electricity Supply Undertaking	92.92
16	Damodar Valley Corporation	0.24
17	Union Territory Chandigarh	0.29
18	North Eastern Electric Power Corporation	0.92
Total		576.11

Streamlining the functioning of CAPART

*311. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD: DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new NGOs supported by CAPART for better implementation of development programmes in rural areas;

(b) whether there are several irregularities in CAPART and whether any Parliamentary Committee has recently examined this;

(c) if so, what are the findings thereof and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to streamline the functioning of CAPART?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI YERRAN NAIDU K.): (a) CAPART is reported to have supported 559 voluntary

organisations for the first time for taking up rural development programmes during the year 1995-96.

(b) CAPART has well-defined guidelines and procedures for dealing with project proposals received by it for the grant of financial assistance. However, CAPART has been receiving complaints about the implementation of the sanctioned projects by the voluntary organisations. These complaints are examined on the merits of each case and, wherever found necessary, suitable timely action is taken.

(c) The Committee on Government Assurances, Rajya Sabha, has examined the question of delay in fulfilment of certain assurance given in reply to some Rajya Sabha Questions relating to CAPART on 23.1.1996. During the course of this examination, the functioning of CAPART in general was also discussed. The Ministry has not received any report of the Committee in this regard.

(d) The functioning of CAPART is reviewed from time to time in the meetings of the Executive Committee and General Body of CAPART and, wherever considered necessary, suitable steps are taken to streamline its functioning. This is a continuous process. Recently, with a view to bringing CAPART nearer to the people and to ensure closer interaction between it and the voluntary organisations, the functioning of CAPART has been decentralised by setting up 6 Regional Committees at Ahmedabad, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur and Lucknow. The Regional Committees would consider project proposals upto an outlay of Rs. 5 lakhs. It is expected that the decentralisation of CAPART would not only result in improving its efficiency and efficacy but would also be successful in promoting, spreading and strengthening voluntarism in rural development.

Provision of tool kits to artisans

312. DR. SHRIKANT RAMACHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the manner of working of the scheme of giving tool kits to artisans presently;

(b) whether the productivity has actually increased by the supply to tool kits;

(c) the number of tool kits distributed in Nagpur District of Maharashtra; and

(d) whether any evaluation of the scheme has recently been done, and if so, what are the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI YERRANNAIDU K.): (a) to (d) The scheme of supply of Improved Tool Kits to Rural Artisans was started in July, 1992 and has been extended to all the districts of the country during the year 1995-96. An evaluation regarding the efficiency and impact of the programme in Agra & Aligarh Districts was carried out in early 1993 by an independent NGO. The major findings of the study are given in the Statement (*See below*). The scheme has been very well received and is working well. The number of tool kits distributed in Nagpur District of Maharashtra since 1993-94 so far is 2600.

Statement

In order to assess the impact of the programme an evaluation was conducted in the districts of Agra and Aligarh (Uttar Pradesh) relating to leather work and blacksmithy in 1993 by Development Alternatives, New Delhi.

The programme impact as per the study is summarised below:

Programme Impact

The impact of the programme will be measured by the level of satisfaction of the beneficiaries. The following