

Government for renovation and for life extension project of power generating units No. 1—5 of Durgapur Projects Limited;

(b) whether DPR for the above has been approved by CEA and the Ministry of Power; and

(c) if so, the present status thereof and the steps taken by Government to clear the project?

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) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A proposal for renovation, modernisation, life extension and upgradation of 5 units of Durgapur Projects Ltd. was received in the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in November, 95 through West Bengal State Electricity Board (WBSEB). The CEA have examined the proposal and conveyed its 'no objection' to the WBSEB for carrying out the works of the aforesaid R&M scheme, keeping in view the observations made by it.

Coverage of Karnataka Blocks Under Panchayat Training Programme

3894. SHRI GUNDAPPA KORWAR: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all Panchayat areas in Karnataka have not been covered under the training programme for Panchayats due to want of funds; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to cover all Blocks and by when they are likely to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) and (b) Organisation of training

programmes for Panchayats, including selection of areas to be covered for the training, is the responsibility of the State Governments, Panchayats being a State subject. The Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment provides limited financial assistance to the States for undertaking training programmes etc. A sum of Rs. one crore was released by this Ministry to Government of Karnataka during 1994-95 for this purpose.

SC/ST Engineers in Building/Housing Section of D.D.A.

3895. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of engineers working in Building/Housing Sections of DDA;

(b) whether any SC/ST engineers are there;

(c) if so, since when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) DDA has reported that 11 Assistance Engineers and 31 Junior Engineers are working in the Building Section and 2 Assistant Engineers and 15 Junior Engineers are working in the Housing Branch of DDA.

(b) to (d) One Assistant Engineer and one Junior Engineer belonging to SC category are working in the Building Section of DDA since June 1996 and January 1994, respectively.

Basic Minimum Services Announced by the Prime Minister

3896. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the Basic Minimum Services announced by the Prime Minister on the occasion of Independence Day address to the Nation;

(b) total amount of expenditure contemplated to implement the Programme; and

(c) the amount earmarked for each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) The Basic Minimum Service announced by the Prime Minister on the occasion of the Independence Day address to the Nation refers to the provision of Seven Basic Minimum Services to all our people recommended by the Conference of Chief Ministers organised on 4-5 July, 1996. The Seven Basic Minimum Services are as under:

(i) 100 per cent coverage of provision of safe drinking water in rural and urban areas.

(ii) 100 per cent coverage of primary health service facilities in rural and urban areas.

(iii) Universalisation of primary education.

(iv) Provision of Public Housing Assistance to all shelterless poor families.

(v) Extension of Mid-day Meal programme in primary schools to all rural blocks and urban slums and disadvantaged sections.

(vi) Provisions of connectivity to all unconnected villages and habitations and

(vii) Streamline the Public Distribution System with focus upon the poor.

(b) and (c) For the financial year 1996-97, the Central Government has provided an additional amount of Rs. 2466 crores as Central Assistance for State Plans to significantly increase the availability of funds for these schemes. This would be in addition to the provisions already made in the State Plans for these seven identified services. Amounts earmarked for each of these Basic Minimum Services will be reflected in the Annual Plan, of each State.

Aerial Photography and Mineral survey work by AIR survey company of India Private Ltd.

3897. **SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:** Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air Survey Company of India Private Ltd., Calcutta, is carrying out tasks of serial photography and mineral survey work for Survey of India and Atomic Minerals Division;

(b) whether the tasks are of strategic/classified nature, if so, the actual nature of jobs carried out and the reasons for entrusting such jobs to a private company;

(c) whether an assessment committee from the Department of Science and Technology had visited the company in January, 1991; and

(d) if so, their assessment of the working of the company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Atomic Minerals Division hires only aircraft from the Air Survey Company to be used as a platform for using their equipments on board and the survey is carried by the officers of Atomic Minerals Division and the Survey data is collected by them. Survey of India utilises the services of the company for serial survey of 'unrestricted' areas.

(c) and (d) An Expert Committee set up by the Department of Science and Technology visited the company in January, 1991 and examined various suggestions for the take over of the company and took a view that there was no need of a take over.