

average tariff increase of 15%. The tariff order sought to reduce cross subsidy and link tariffs to cost of service. For domestic consumers average tariff was increased by 54%. However, to mitigate the impact of tariff increase on residential consumers, the Government provided additional subsidy of Rs. 281 crore. Total subsidy paid by the Government of Andhra Pradesh during 2000-01 is Rs. 1626 crore. The APERC has issued second tariff order on 24.3.2001 proposing no tariff hike for the year 2001-02 except minor adjustment of tariff for domestic consumers. Government of Andhra Pradesh has committed subsidy of Rs. 1561.41 crores during 2001 -02.

Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (MERC) in its first Tariff Order dated 5th May, 2000, has directed that the tariff for all categories would be simplified and would be gradually moved towards cost of supply. In tariff proposal for 2001-02 in the pursuance of MERC's order, MSEB has tried to rationalize the tariff by reducing 40 Nos. of categories/tariff rates to 17 Nos. Also subsidy deviation from cost of supply which was between 30% to 141% has been brought down to 38% to 125%.

Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC) has issued its first tariff order which has made effective from 29th December, 2000. The average tariff increase was equivalent to about 17% as against the hike of 24.5% proposed by Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. (KPTCL). Government of Karnataka have agreed to give an additional subsidy of Rs. 144 crore to give relief to agricultural consumers below 10 Horse Power (HP).

#### **Acquisition of auto pilot system**

\*411. SHRIK. RAMA MOHAN A RAO:

SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the CAG has criticised the Ministry and the IAF for not speeding-up the acquisition of auto pilot system for jaguars and upgradation programme of MIG-21 aircraft; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Report No. 8 of 2001 of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) has pointed out delays in upgradation programme of Jaguar and MiG-21 BIS aircraft.

[ 19 December, 2001 ]

RAJYA SABHA

The need was felt in 1985 for an autopilot for incorporation into the Jaguar control system. Autopilot equipment during the eighties was of large dimension and it could not be integrated in the Jaguars. In the nineties, smaller systems were available and a decision was taken to install the autopilot. A contract was concluded in August' 1999 for supply of autopilot systems with associated spares. Work for integration of this equipment is in hand.

A contract was signed with Russia in March 1996 for upgradation of MiG-21 BIS aircraft. The programme is expected to be completed by 2004-2005. The delay has been due to key avionics systems not having been developed as per expected time frame and because of problems of import procedures in Russia. Two aircraft upgraded in Russia have now been positioned at Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), Nasik and are undergoing test flights.

#### **Liaison Officers for SCs, STs and OBCs**

\*412. PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the Departments/Subordinate and Attached Offices, Public Sector and Autonomous Organizations/Corporations under the Ministry of Textiles are not nominating Liaison Officer for SCs, STs and OBCs as required under MHA OM No. 16/17/67-Estt. (C) dated 10.4.1968 and DOPT OM No. 36022/5/76 dated 27.5.1976 for ensuring proper compliance of instructions in the matters of reservations for SCs, STs and OBCs;

(b) if so, the names of such Offices/Organizations;

(c) if not, the names of Organizations which function as 'Administrative Units' under this Ministry; and

(d) the Liaison Officers nominated for above referred purpose as on date?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIKASHIRAM RANA ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The names of organizations/administrative units under Ministry of Textiles and the names of Liaison Officers nominated for SCs, STs and OBCs for ensuring compliance of instructions in the matter of reservations in the Ministry of Textiles including its organizations are as under:—