1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	286	254.63
Karnataka	230	652.61
Kerala	198	466.85
Tamil Nadu	147	338.92
Bihar and Jharkhand	171	367.97
Orissa	161	156.76
Sikkim	68	202.75
West Bengal	145	182.62
Arunachal Pradesh	492	1059.03
Assam	46	118.00
Manipur	96	105.63
Meghalaya	98	181.50
Mizoram	88	190.32
Nagaland	86	181.39
Tripura	8	9.85
A&N Island	6	6.40
Goa	3	2.60
TOTAL	4,096	10,071.81

Biogas Plants in Andhra Pradesh

3121. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of biogas plants which are functional in Andhra Pradesh as on date, district-wise;

(b) whether Government have reviewed the function of biogas plants in the States;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to popularize biogas plants in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) As the number of biogas plants functioning on a given date depend upon several factors including interest of plant-owners to operate and maintain the plants

properly, it is determined by sample check in randomly selected districts. Information on district-wise percentage of plants found functional, out of the sample plants inspected in 15 selected districts of Andhra Pradesh by the Ministry's Regional Office and Biogas Development and Training Centre, Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad during the last two years, i.e. 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, is given in the Statement enclosed (*See* below).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The functionality of biogas plants set up so far in different States during the Ninth Plan period has improved. While it varied from State to State, an estimate on an all India average basis indicated that about 89 per cent plants were functioning satisfactorily.

(d) The steps taken to popularize biogas plants in the State include enhancement in the rate of turn-key job fee from Rs. 500/- to Rs. 700/- per plant to attract enterpreneurs to construct plants with three years' warranty for free maintenance servicing; organization of one-day women education courses in villages; publicity through advertisements, calendars, leaflets, etc.; organization of on-the-job training for masons; involvement of grass-roots level non-governmental organizations and undertaking repair of non-functional plants.

Statement

District-wise percentage of plants found functional out of the plants inspected by the Ministry's Regional Office, Hyderabad and Biogas Development and Training Centre, Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad during the years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 in the State of Andhra Pradesh

District	Plants found functional out of the plants inspected
1	2
Adilabad	32%
Anantapur	80%
Chittoor	100%
East Godavari	100%
Guntur	100%
Khammam	95%
Krishna	99%
Medak	99%
Nalgonda	90%

District	Plants found functional out of the plants inspected
1	2
Nellore	93%
Prakasam	75%
Ranga Reddy	92%
Vizianagaram	100%
Warangal	89%
West Godavari	90%

Solar Energy Powered Air Quality Monitoring Station at Agra

3122. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has directed the Ministry to make arrangements to run air quality monitoring station in Agra with solar energy to protect the Taj from pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) would Government consider the same arrangement for other national monuments to protect them from pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) To monitor the pollution level in the Taj Mahal complex, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and the UP Pollution Control Board (UPPCB) have installed air quality monitoring stations. In view of erratic power supply, these agencies have been using diesel generating sets as back up power source to operate the equipment of air quality monitoring stations.

The Supreme Court in course of hearing a petition relating to impact of air pollution on the Taj Mahal, has directed the ASI, the Central Pollution Control Board and the UPPCB *vide* its order dated 27th November, 2001 to instal solar energy systems to power the air quality monitoring stations in four months time. The Court has also directed that for the time being the Central Government should meet the cost of using this technology.

(c) The Ministry has also informed the Court that it can provide technical support to the ASI to study the feasibility of using solar photovoltaic systems in other protected monuments. The ASI has no such plan under their consideration in respect of other monuments at present.