

the major delays, and this has resulted in pushing up the percentage. As regards the percentage, I would also like to inform the hon. Member, that whereas, in 1988, this percentage was very high, 64 per cent, now, it is 34 per cent, and if we take into account the cost escalation consequent to inflation, consequent to the increase in excise duty and customs duty, consequent to interest rate changes and the exchange rate fluctuations, then the cost escalation comes to only 17 per cent. We are not satisfied even with 17 per cent. We would like to reduce it to zero. But there are certain circumstances which are beyond the control of the Project Development Authorities.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

#### **Recommendations of Experts Committee on Marketing Strategy by KVIC**

\*61. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recommendations of Experts Committee to strengthen marketing strategy were not acted upon by the KVIC;

(b) whether trading units having an investment of Rs. 89.57 crores were running in losses; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken against the CEO and CAO of KVIC for not implementing the said recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) No, Sir. The Expert Committee which was constituted in 1997 on marketing of KVI products submitted its recommendations in January, 1998 and most of the recommendations made by this Expert Committee have already been accepted.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Since the major recommendations of the Report have been accepted by the KVIC, the question of taking action against the CEO/CAO of the KVIC does not arise.

#### **WLL Service in Karnataka**

\*63. SHRI K.aKONDAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state: