RAJYA SABHA [28 November 2001]

Sr.	Demand	Response/Reaction
No.		
(ix)	Free travel	Presently, recipients of Param Vir
	India in a year to Ex-Servicemen	Chakra, Maha Vir Chakra and Chakra Series and Widows of posthumous winners of these gallantry awards are entitled to free Rail travel. The war widows are entitled to 75% concession in Rail fare. The above category of people and permanent war disabled soldiers and their dependent family members are eligible to 50% concession in fare for air travel on domestic flights in Indian Airlines.
(x)		There is no proposal to build defence colonies in selected areas.
(xi)	financial help of Rs. 10,000/- on	A financial grant upto Rs. 8,000/- can be granted from the Raksha Mantri's Discretionary Fund for the marriage of daughters of deserving Ex-servicemen/ widows.

Providing drinking water from tubewelis in Orissa

- *143. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government have any plan to provide drinking water through tubewells in the State of Orissa;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to provide drinking water in the Western Orissa region?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. However, drinking water supply being a State subject, schemes for providing drinking water are implemented by the States. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the States by providing financial assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and Drinking Water Supply component of the Prime Minister's Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) and the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP). As the powers to plan, sanction and implement individual rural drinking water supply schemes have been delegated to the State Governments, further allocation of funds under ARWSP and PMGY-Rural Drinking Water component, within the State, comes under the purview of the State Government. As per the information furnished by the Government of Orissa, during 2001-2002, Government of Orissa have plan to install 10371 tube wells and sanitary wells in the State.

(c) As per the information furnished by the Government of Orissa, all the identified habitations of Western Orissa districts have been fully covered with drinking water facilities. However, during 2001-02, the State Government has programmed to install 2330 tubewells in seven Western Orissa districts namely, (1) Sambalpur, (2) Jharsuguda, (3) Deogarh, (4) Bargarh, (5) Sundargarh, (6) Bolangir and (7) Sonepur. Besides 335 additional tubewells at the rate of 5 tubewells per Block have been programmed to be installed in above seven districts of Western Orissa out of the funds placed by the Western Orissa Development council. There is also a programme to provide drinking water in Western Orissa districts through 22 piped water supply projects during the current year.

Under the AUWSP, potable water supply is provided to towns having population less than 20,000 as per 1991 census, funds for which is shared between the Centre and the States on 50:50 basis. The Ministry of Urban Development has sanctioned 20 water supply schemes at the cost of Rs. 2908.98 lakhs for Orissa against which

Rs. 1208.76 lakhs have been released as Central Share to Government of Orissa.

Advance deposit for supply of coal to power plants

- *144. SHRI P.N. SIVA: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:
- (a) the criteria and conditions for the supply of coal to power plants;
- (b) whether Government have asked purchasers of coal from the power plant to deposit in advance an amount equivalent to one month's purchase of coal; and
- (c) if so, whether the power plants have refused to deposit any money as advance?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) (a) and (b) For the power plants recommended by Ministry of Power for long term coal linkage, Standing Linkage Committee (Long Term) functioning in the Department of Coal, based on projected availability of coal and logistics furnished by coal companies and Railways, grants long term tinkage to power plants.

Linkage order is issued by the Department, of Coal with the following general conditions:—

- (i) A sum equivalent to the cost of one month's value of coal supplies shall be deposited with the coal company concerned as earnest money on signing of the Fuel Supply Agreement.
- (ii) A further sum equivalent to two months' value of coal supplies as commitment advance shall be deposited within one year of signing of the Fuel Supply Agreement.
- (iii) The developer shall enter into a Fuel Supply contract with the coal company within a year from the date of issue of linkage order. Linkage will automatically be cancelled, if this stipulation is not adhered to.
- (c) The amount of one month's deposit is not an advance but is an earnest money payable by the developer of the power plants on