

Price Control on Vitamins

*353. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA:

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chairman of Kelkar Committee had confirmed that the Committee headed by him recommended for price control on vitamin B1, B2, B6, B12, vitamin C and vitamin D-3 and;

(b) if so, on what consideration his Ministry came to the conclusion that Kelkar Committee had recommended price decontrol on the said vitamin bulk drugs?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) The Kelkar Committee recommended that all Vitamins when used in combinations in formulations would come under Category II of price control and that if used singly would not be price controlled. Keeping in view these recommendations, bulk vitamins were kept out of price control.

Rural Electrification in Andhra Pradesh

*354. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what amount was given to Andhra Pradesh for rural electrification during the last two financial years;

(b) what amount was spent by the State Government during these years along with the number of villages electrified;

(c) what was the target for rural electrification for the Sixth Five Year Plan period and whether this target was achieved; and

(d) what is the target for the Seventh Five year Plan Period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALP. NATH RAI): (a) Rural Electrification Corporation had extended loan assistance of Rs. 46.48 crores and Rs. 77.22 crores

during 1986-87 and 1987-88 respectively and, in addition, the Planning Commission had provided an allocation of Rs. 11.69 crores and Rs. 9.9 crores under the State Plan for rural electrification in the State during the two years respectively.

(b) As per the information available from Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board, an expenditure of Rs. 86.30 crores during 1986-87 and Rs. 56.56 crores upto February, 1988 during 1987-88, was incurred on rural electrification.

905 and 1076 villages were electrified in the State during 1986-87 and 1987-88 respectively.

(c) The targets and achievements of rural electrification during the Sixth Five Year Plan in the State were:

	Target	Achievement
Village electrification	7,640	6,410
Pumpset energisation	2,65,000	2,41,818

(d) The Seventh Plan programme envisages electrification of 4370 villages and energisation of 3,50,000 pumpsets.

Commercial use of FAX Machines

*355. SHRI SHEO KUMAR MISHRA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to permit commercial use of Facsimile (FAX) machines; if so, what will be the licence fee therefor;

(b) what are the reasons for allowing their commercial use;

(c) whether it is a fact that some owners are already making commercial use of these machines; if so, how many cases have been detected and what action has been taken thereon; and

(d) in how many cities the domestic FAX facility is available and what are the plans for extension of such facility to more cities?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH): (a) to (d) Government has decided to per-

mit private parties also to operate FAX service for public use. The licence fee for operating public FAX service will be Rs. 15,000.- per annum.

Since the Department is able to provide FAX service from a limited number of stations which is 14 at present, it has been decided to permit private parties to operate public FAX service.

Some instances have come to the notice by way of newspaper advertisements, of some parties offering FAX service to public from their machines. In Bombay one company who was reported to be having FAX facility on their telephones at various places in India was noticed to be commercially exploiting FAX facility provided to them. Legal action has been initiated against the company.

Presently FAX service is available from Central Telegraph Offices in 4 Metro cities and 10 other cities in the country. It is also proposed to cover important towns in the country by 1989.

Percentage consumption of Electricity under Different Sectors

*356 SHRI S. S. AHIUWALIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage consumption of electricity for irrigation purposes,

for industry and for domestic use during the last two years, Statewise;

(b) what has been the shortfall under each head during this period;

(c) what would be the position of electricity during 1988 as per the present generation vis-a-vis demand; and

(d) how the situation is to be tackled if there is a severe shortage in generation of electricity during the current year and in the next year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) The quantum of power being consumed by the Agricultural sector (for irrigation purposes) and Industry in different States depends mainly upon the extent of electrification of villages, energisation of agricultural pump sets and the extent of industrialisation of the States. Information about sector wise demand is not being collected. The percentage of consumption of electricity, State-wise, for Irrigation, Industries and the domestic sector during the years 1985-86 and 1986-87 is given in the Statement. (See below.)

(c) The overall power supply position in the country giving requirement, availability and shortage of energy during the year 1988 is given below:—

(Figures in MUs net)

	Requirement	Availability	Shortage
1988			
January to July, 1988(Actual)	126724	114320	12404 (9.8%)
Aug. to Dec., 1988 (Anticipated)	97080	89843	7237 (7.5%)
TOTAL (1988)	223804	204163	19641 (8.8%)

(d) Various measures are being taken to improve availability of power which include expediting commissioning of additional capacity, early stabilisation of newly commissioned units, improving the performance of the existing thermal power

stations, reducing transmission and distribution losses, implementation of energy conservation and demand management measures, and implementing short gestation projects.