

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please listen to the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please listen to the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am afraid this is all against the rules. The Members are themselves breaking the rules. ...*(Interruptions)*... You know the procedure. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are breaking the rules. The Chair has no option but to adjourn the House till 12 o'clock. ...*(Interruptions)*...

The House then adjourned at five minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN
in the Chair.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Thermal Power Stations in Maharashtra

*421. SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number and the particulars of the proposals for Thermal Power Station (TPS) units submitted by the Maharashtra Government and pending with the Ministry, including those at Parli, Khaperkheda and Bhusawal;

(b) the reasons for the delay in disposal of these proposals; and

(c) by when these proposals would finally be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) With the enactment of the Electricity Act, 2003, Techno-Economic Clearance (TEC) of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is not required for setting up of the thermal power plants. Hence, no proposal for setting up of Thermal Power Station (TPS) units from Maharashtra Government is pending with the Ministry of Power/Central Electricity Authority.

Reduction in AT and C losses

*422. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in the beginning of 2008, Government had assured to reduce the Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT and C) losses in power supply by nine per cent per annum;

(b) if so, the present situation thereof;

(c) whether Government had also assured to ensure 100 per cent metering at feeder distribution transformer and consumer levels; and

(d) if so, the present stage thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) The Government of India has accorded sanction to implement Restructured APDRP for Eleventh Plan as a Central Sector Scheme on 31.07.2008. The focus of the programme is on actual, demonstrable performance in terms of loss reduction. Projects under the Scheme to be taken up in two parts. Part-A is the projects for establishment of baseline data and IT applications for energy accounting/auditing

and IT based consumer service centres and Part-B is regular distribution strengthening projects. The objective of the scheme is to reduce the AT and C losses to 15% in the project areas at the end of the scheme. The Utilities are also to achieve the following target of AT&C loss reduction at utility level:

- Utilities having AT and C loss above 30%: Reduction by 3% per year
- Utilities having AT and C loss below 30%: Reduction by 1.5% per year

Initially funds will be provided as loan, which will be converted into grant on achieving the AT and C loss reduction targets. 1022 projects at the cost of Rs. 3561.93 crore have been approved and Rs. 584.31 crores have been released by the Power Finance Corporation to fifteen state utilities under Part-A of the scheme.

(c) and (d) In part-A of Restructured-APDRP, there is inbuilt provision that every utility has to meter every feeder and distribution transformer in the project area for the successful completion of the scheme. As per information available at national level 98% feeders have been metered. 20 States have achieved 100% feeder metering. The Distribution Transformer metering level is 11%. Overall 88% of the consumers have been metered in the country. Two States (Kerala and Himachal Pradesh) and Union Territories Chandigarh and Daman and Diu have achieved 100% consumer metering.

Implementation of centrally sponsored schemes by States

*423. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that State Governments are facing serious difficulties in implementing various centrally sponsored schemes, as the applicable norms do not suit the conditions specific to States;

(b) if so, whether the Kerala Government has pointed out the matter to the Central Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Various State Governments have been raising the matter of building in greater flexibility in the guidelines for Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) so as to be better able to meet the specific needs and conditions in each State. Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission has requested all Chief Ministers in December, 2008 to review the matter and provide specific suggestions for changing the guidelines in a manner which would make it easier for flow of resources.

The Government of Kerala has suggested that CSS should insist only on broad objectives of the programme and allow the States to introduce flexibility in the norms of CSS to match regional