

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):

(a) and (b) Requests have been received for running a through coach between Giridih and Patna.

(c) Due to meagre traffic offering, there is no justification for running a coach between Giridih and Patna. However, passengers between these places can travel with a changeover at Madhopur where convenient connections are available.

(d) and (e) No such representation dated 10-1-85 appears to have been received.

Starting of Public Schools in the Country

55. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to start a number of public schools on the pattern of Doon School throughout the country;

(b) whether any capitation fee is proposed to be charged for admission to such schools; and

(c) whether Government also propose to reserve 25 per cent seats for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in such public schools?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Setting up of Hydro-Electric Project in Kerala

56. SHRI C. HARIDAS:
SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request from Kerala Government for a hydro electric project

in that State in lieu of the Silent Valley project.

(b) whether the scheme submitted by the Kerala Government has since been approved, the estimated expenditure, the share of Central Government and the likely period of completion have been finalised; and

(c) if not, what steps Government proposes to take against the impending shortage of power in the State especially in the Malabar Region?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Besides the five on-going schemes with total capacity of 710 MW in the State 4 more hydroelectric projects with a total capacity of 250.5 MW have been cleared by the Central Electricity Authority to meet the power requirements in the State. The Working Group on Power have also identified two major hydroelectric schemes namely Pallivassal Replacement (240MW) and Challakuddy (200 MW) as new starts during the 7th Plan Period. Since the feasible schemes in North Kerala are held up for implementation due to the inter-State aspects, power for the Malabar Region would have to be fed by transmission of power from other areas.

Shortage of Power in Kerala

57. SHRI C. HARIDAS: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Central Electricity Authority to assist Kerala in overcoming the shortage of power especially to the Malabar region;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reason thereof?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) At present Kerala is not facing any power shortage