

tions are currently in progress between EEC and a number of Mediterranean countries for the modification of the existing agreements with them taking into account the implications of the enlargement of the EEC from Six to Ten members.

(b) It is premature to assess the implications of the proposed agreements as their scope is not yet known.

(c) The question of taking action for safeguarding India's trade interests would be examined at the appropriate time.

#### RATES OF POWER SUPPLY

33. SHRI KALI

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

(a) the comparative domestic, commercial and agricultural power supply rates in different States /Union territories;

(b) the corresponding cost of production thereof in each State and Union territories; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to bring about uniformity in respect of power rates throughout the country and to supply power to agriculturist, especially the small and marginal farmers, at subsidised rates?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI BAD NATH KURREEL): (a) A statement showing the rates for domestic, commercial and agricultural consumers charged by the State Electricity Boards/State Government Electricity Departments/Union Territories is placed at Annexure I. [See Appendix LXXXI, Annexure No. 5]

(b) The pooled cost of generation of power in the different States to the extent available, is given in the statement placed at Annexure II.

(c) It is the aim of the Government to ensure that there are uniform rates for each category of consumers within each State in the first instance and ulti-

mately, on the establishment of an all India Grid to narrow the disparities in the rates to the extent feasible in the country as a whole. Uniform power tariff for each category of consumers have been introduced in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Kerala, Mysore, Punjab, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh. The Boards in the States of Maharashtra, Orissa and Rajasthan are also taking steps in this direction. In Ut-tar Pradesh there is uniform tariff throughout the State, except in three major cities namely, Allahabad, Kan-pur and Lucknow, where lower low tension tariff for domestic and commercial consumers is in force due to historical reasons. Although Tamil Nadu Board introduced uniform tariff, it has kept high tension tariffs for large and heavy industries in hydro and thermal areas. In the case of agricultural consumers the State Electricity Boards have adopted promotional tariffs. During Fourth Plan Central assistance to the State is being given in the form of block grants/ loans and there is no subsidy scheme in-force for electricity rates to the agricultural consumers.

#### STATEMENT

#### ANNEXURE II

(In Paise/kwh sent out)

Name of Board	1970-71
1. Andhra Pradesh . . . . .	8.2
2. Bihar . . . . .	8.45
3. Gujarat . . . . .	8.83
4. Kerala . . . . .	2.81
5. Maharashtra	
(i) Vidarbha Thermal	
Grid . . . . .	9.2
(ii) Tata Koyna Hydro	
Grid . . . . .	2.5
6. Mysore . . . . .	1.43
7. Tamil Nadu . . . . .	4.26
8. West Bengal . . . . .	6.96