

t[THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The present position is given at annexure attached. [See Appendix LXXIV, Annexure No. 106].

- (b) In each of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Kerala, Maharashtra, Mysore, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, the power systems are inter-connected and power is supplied to all categories of consumers from the State Grid. In the remaining States of Assam, J & K, Gujarat, Orissa, West Bengal and Nagaland, power is supplied from separate systems.

(c) and (d) With the ultimate objective of introducing uniform promotional agricultural tariffs in the country as a whole on the establishment of an all-India Grid, uniform agricultural tariffs have been introduced within each State except Orissa where the areas served by diesel sets are being progressively brought under the Grid System so that uniform agricultural tariffs could be introduced. Present agricultural tariffs are generally below the cost of supply, in order to promote energised irrigation for food production.]

DISCREPANCY IN BUILDING COSTS OF BARAUNI I PATHRATU PROJECTS

766. SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI: SHRI DEVDUTT KUMAR KIKABHAI PATEL: SHRI D. THENGARI:

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

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news that appeared in the 'Search Light' dated the 24th

f[] English translation.

September, 1970 under the caption "Wide discrepancy in building costs of Barauni, Pathratu etc.";

(b) if so, what are the details of the discrepancy and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what action is proposed to be taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO):

(a) to (c) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The main allegation made in the newspaper report is that the cost of installing 100 MW at Barauni is lower than the cost of installing 100 MW at Pathratu and that the difference is about Rs. 7 crores. It has been reported by the Bihar Government that the revised cost for installing two units of 50 MW each at Barauni is Rs. 16.4 crores. The revised cost of the Pathratu project (4 units of 50 MW and 2 units of 100 MW each) is Rs. 52.71 crores. The cost per KW of installed capacity works out to Rs. 1640 for Barauni and 1318 for Pathratu. The Government of Bihar have set up a Commission of Enquiry under the Commission of Enquiry Act on 28th October, 1970, to enquire into the causes of losses and shortfalls in the performance of the Bihar State Electricity Board. The Commission would be in a position to enquire into any allegations regarding the implementation of the Pathratu Power Project.

CHARGES AGAINST PRIME MINISTER FOR ENCOURAGING MUSLIM COMMUNALISTS

*767. SHRI S. D. MISRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a group of Muslim intellectuals, commenting on her recent statement to the effect that the Kerala Muslim