

**BREAKDOWN OF ELECTRIC SUPPLY IN  
CONNAUGHT PLACE, NEW DELHI**

•276. SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state whether the electric supply broke down in Con-naught Place on the 26th and 27th May, 1963 and if so, what were the causes of these breakdowns?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO): Yes, Sir. The supply of power broke down due to a fault which developed suddenly in one of the transformers installed at the Connaught Place substation of the New Delhi Municipal Committee and the supply was resumed in one and half hours by making temporary arrangements. [For *sup-plementaries*, See cols 1775—78 *infra*.]

**■(■)FREQUENT ELECTRIC BREAKDOWN IN  
DELHI**

•293. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is frequent breakdown of electricity in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what is the reason for the same and what are the steps taken by Government to ensure regular supply?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO): (a) There are a number of breakdowns of electricity in Delhi.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT**

As directed by the Ministry of Irrigation and Power the causes of the failures of power supply in Delhi were investigated by Shri K. L. Vij, Member, C.W. & P.C., in July, 1963. He reported that the failures were

This question was taken up for answer, with the Chair's permission, along with Starred Question No. 276.

broadly due to the undermentioned three categories: —

- (i) Planned shut-downs that were necessitated for extensions and maintenance of distribution system;
- (ii) break-downs in distribution system due to a variety of causes, including over-loading and mechanical failures due to break-down of conductors and supports; short circuits; failures of equipment, cables, joints etc; faulty operation; and due to maintenance or construction defects; and
- (iii) failures in consumers' services, due to overloading of service connections or defects in the consumers' installations.

For reducing the power failures to the minimum, Shri Vij made the undermentioned observations: —

- (i) The shut-downs should be planned in such a way that a minimum number thereof is taken for overhauling particularly in the months of May/June when the incidence of interruptions in the power supply are likely to be higher due to adverse weather conditions in Delhi. The DESU should also ensure that the number and duration of shut downs, and inconvenience caused to the public on account thereof is reduced to the minimum;
- (ii) failures due to breakdowns in distribution system are inevitable in large systems, such as DESU, where the bulk of the lines are carried over ground. The only effective way of eliminating them completely is to replace them by under-ground cables, but this will be a very expensive proposition requiring large amounts of foreign