THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) and (b) No specific order has been issued by Government to the States for not going in Joint Ventures for power plants.

Capacity of transformers installed under RGGVY

125. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that single phase power connection are being given to the consumers under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) and low capacity transformers are being installed for the purpose;

(b) if so, whether, in absence of low capacity, three phased connection are not being given thereby business is suffering; and

(c) whether Government proposes to Narora Power Station to install high capacity transformers and if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) is a programme for rural households electrification. For rural households, single phase connection is the requirement and the same is being provided. Under RGGVY, High Voltage Distribution System (HVDS) has been envisaged. Under HVDS, instead of one large capacity transformer, a number of smaller capacity transformers on extended high voltage lines have been sanctioned to reduce the chances of power theft and overall aggregate technical and commercial (AT&C) losses.

(b) The distribution transformers in the villages have been installed to cater to the domestic lighting load and providing free connection to BPL households. The 3-phase lines (11 KV) are laid up to village. Infrastructure can be augmented by the State Governments/utilities to meet productive loads as per demand.

(c) Narora Power Station is constructed and installed by Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) which is a Public Sector Enterprise under the administrative control of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE). The transformers of various sizes are installed as per design and requirement.

Reduction of losses of distribution companies

†126. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that power distribution companies operating in the country are likely to incur a loss of ` 70,000 crore during 2010-11;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has introduced Restructured Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme in the country in order to prevent this loss;

(d) if so, the date on which this programme was started and the money spent, so far, on this Programme; and

(e) the targets set along with their time schedule to prevent the power losses under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) and (b) As per Mercados report submitted to 13th Finance Commission, the projected losses at constant nominal tariffs and without considering the subsidies have been worked out as ` 68,643 Crores for the year 2010-11.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Restructured-Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (R-APDRP) was launched by the Ministry of Power in July 2008 as a Central Sector Scheme for improving the urban power distribution sector in the country. The focus of R-APDRP Scheme is on actual demonstrable performance by utilities in terms of sustained Aggregate Technical & Commercial (AT&C) loss reduction. The projects under the scheme are taken up in two parts: Part-A & Part-B. Part-A of the scheme is dedicated to the establishment of an IT enabled system for achieving reliable and verifiable baseline data that shall enable determination of exact and verifiable AT&C losses in towns where the scheme is being implemented. Part-B of the scheme is for actual up-gradation and strengthening of the sub-transmission and distribution system.

So far, under Part-A of R-APDRP, projects worth ` 5177 Cr. covering all the eligible towns (1401) in the country have already been sanctioned. Until now, 42 supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) projects worth ` 982.45 Cr. have also been sanctioned for eight States (Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Kerala) under Part-A. So far, 907 projects worth ` 19367.43 Cr. have been approved in fifteen

States (Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal) under Part-B.

So far, an amount of ` 4052.88 Crores have been released as loan under the programme for disbursement to state power distribution utilities against Part-A and Part-B projects.

(e) The standard project completion cycle for Part-A and Part-B schemes is 24 months and 36 months respectively. The schemes sanctioned are under various stage of implementation.

It is expected that on successful completion of the scheme, the AT&C losses will be reduced in the project areas. On achievement of loss reduction to 15% or below, 50% of loans taken by utilities in Part-B will be converted into grant.

Investment in power sector

127. SHRI A.A. JINNAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that policy loopholes and lack of commitment from the State Governments is casting an adverse impact on the investment inflows by the existing and potential investors keen to invest in India's power sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and in what ways Government proposes to tackle this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Coal import for power generation

128. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coal is being imported for the use of thermal power stations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last two years, year-wise, with quantities imported and countries from where imported;