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SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY (West Bengal): Sir, ... (Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, हम आन्ध्र प्रदेश का बंटवारा सहन नहीं करेंगे।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't come with banners. ...(*Interruptions*)... You know, you cannot do this. ...(*Interruptions*)... Why are you deliberately violating the Rules?

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): मान्यवर, ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No banners, please. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please go back to your place. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, today is Human Rights Day. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : महोदय, राज्यों का बंटवारा, इस देश के साथ ...(व्यवधान)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Save Tamil Nadu fishermen. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Mr. Chairman, Sir...

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir we have ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI N. BALAGANGA (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, ... (Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please go back. ...(*Interruptions*)... The House is adjourned till 1200 hours.

The House then adjourned at three minutes past eleven of the clock.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Uninterrupted power supply to farmers

- *61. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government is aware that farmers are not getting uninterrupted power supply even for a minimum duration in a day and have to be alert throughout 24 hours to get power supply to irrigate their farm fields;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;

- whether Government contemplates any policy in consultation with State (c) Governments to provide uninterrupted power supply to farmers for at least eight hours in a day to take up agriculture activities; and
 - if so, the details thereof? (d)

Written Answers to

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Electricity being a concurrent subject, supply and distribution of electricity in a State to different categories of consumers/sectors including agriculture comes under the purview of the respective State Government/State Power Utility. The duration of uninterrupted power supply to be given to any category of consumer including agriculture consumers is also decided by the respective State Government/State Power Utilities.

The Government of India only supplements the efforts of the State Governments by establishing power plants in Central Sector and allocating power therefrom to the States/UTs to mitigate the shortage.

As per the information given by the States to the Central Electricity Authority, the average hours of three phase power supply to agriculture sector during the current year 2013-14 (upto November, 2013) is in the range of 5 hours to 24 hours for different States.

(c) and (d) Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) and Restructured-Accelerated Power Development & Reforms Programme (R-APDRP) of Government of India supplement the efforts of the State Governments for strengthening of the distribution infrastructure to provide access to electricity to every household in the country.

As per information available with the Central Electricity Authority, some States have taken initiatives to provide separate feeders for providing the improved power supply to non-agricultural rural consumers and regulated supply to agricultural consumers for fixed hours on rotation basis. States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh have started the programme for feeder segregation for giving regulated reliable supply to agriculture.

High rate of infant mortality in Assam

- *62. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- whether it is a fact that Assam has one of the highest rates of infant mortality (a) in the country;