

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA (Assam): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

**Need for fixing a timeline and ensuring timely completion of Transmission
and Distribution Projects in the Power Sector in the UT of
Jammu and Kashmir**

SHRI GULAM ALI (Nominated): Sir, I would like to thank the Government of India and Shri R.K. Singh, Minister for Power, for his personal intervention in the improvement of power sector in Jammu & Kashmir. It is because of the Prime Minister's special focus that hydroelectric projects like Kiru-Kawar, Pakkal-Dul and Rattle on the Chenab Basin, with a combined capacity of around 3,000 megawatt, are in the process of execution. This capacity is equivalent to the capacity addition in Jammu & Kashmir over the last 75 years. The Government of India has also been generous towards implementation of transmission and distribution projects in the Union Territory under various centrally sponsored schemes the fruits of which are already beginning to be felt. To anchor the gains achieved in this sector, the Government of India has already granted technical sanction for a transmission plan for Jammu & Kashmir costing around Rs. 4,971 crore, vide letter no. CEA-PS-11-22(15)/1/2018-PSPA-1 Division-Part(1), dated 18.06.2021. Implementation of this plan within the next two to three years is very essential to ensure that quality power is available 24X7 to the people of Jammu & Kashmir. I would request the hon. Minister to fix a time-line for the Government for implementation of the projects in the transmission sector in Jammu & Kashmir and strategy of their funding. As I have already mentioned that these projects should come up in next 2-3 years for enabling

the fruits of the hitherto investment in power sector of Jammu and Kashmir to reach the consumers. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to fix a timeline for implementation of transmission and distribution projects in the U.T. of Jammu and Kashmir and ensure its timely completion. Thank you, Sir.

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

Need for setting up a branch of MSME Development Institute at Kannur in Kerala

SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P (Kerala): Sir, the MSME sector is one of the fastest-growing and employment-providing sectors in Kerala with relatively lower investment. This is particularly evident in the case of the North Kerala in which MSMEs play a critical role in the economic development. The region occupies a unique position in the MSME sector with a concentration of many Khadi, handloom, handicrafts and other traditional and indigenous industries. Many of the MSME units in North Kerala are engaged in manufacturing locally-specific unique products with geographical indicator and IPR. However, there is a lacuna in skill upgradation training, identifying and motivating entrepreneurs, technology innovation, and providing financial assistance. This is mainly because of the absence of a robust training infrastructure in the region.

In Kerala, there is only one MSME Development Institute which is situated in Thrissur. Unlike other States, Kerala does not have a Branch MSME Development Institute. As of now, most of the entrepreneurs in the four districts of North Kerala, namely, Kasargod, Kannur, Wayanad and Kozhikode, are forced to depend on the Branch MSME Development Institute in Mangalore (Karnataka) for any technical assistance. Many entrepreneurs complained about the wrong information that they received from private agencies. Against this context, establishing a Branch MSME