

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal with Government for installation of wind-mills in those districts; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) Wind monitoring studies were undertaken at four locations in these districts. However, wind speeds were not found adequate for wind power generation.

(b) and (c) Wind farm projects are mainly set up as commercial projects, through private investments. There is no proposal with Government for establishing wind farms in this area.

Harnessing Tidal Energy in Sunderban Delta

840. SHRI PRASANTACHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to harness the natural resources of tidal energy generation of power in the estuarine belt of Sunderban Delta, West Bengal;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government so far for generation of power in the remote islands of Sunderban specially in the Durgaduani Creek, a project .of which has been submitted to Government by the State Government of West Bengal; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M- KANNAPPAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry, after carrying out a feasibility study, have got prepared a detailed project report through the West Bengal Renewable Energy Development Agency, Kolkata for a 3 MW capacity tidal power plant proposed to be set up at Durgaduani Creek in Sundarban area of West Bengal. The detailed project report has been reviewed by a Committee of Experts constituted by the Ministry and the proposal for this tidal power plant is being processed by the Ministry. Besides tidal power, solar photo-voltaic power plants of about 300 kWp capacity and two biomass gasifier power generating plants of capacity

500 kW each supported by the Ministry, are in operation in different villages of Sunderban area. In addition, three solar photo-voltaic power plants of capacity 105 kWp, 100 kWp and 100 kWp respectively, and two biomass gasifier power generating plants of capacity 20kW and 375kW respectively, have been sanctioned for different villages of that area.

Electrification of Villages in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan

841. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: SHRI
MOOLCHAND MEENA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state r

(a) the number of villages per district proposed to be electrified during the current year in the State of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the details of the targets achieved so far and the number of villages per districts still to be electrified;

(c) the details of the Budget allocated and the amount of money spent on the same;

(d) whether Government have also allocated special budget for the maintenance of power stations, sub-stations, transformers, etc. for Rajasthan; and

(e) if so, the amount allocated for maintenance of the project and the amount spent till now ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) Rajasthan Vidyut Nigam Ltd. has fixed target of electrification of 500 villages in Rajasthan during 2002-03, out of which 51 villages are reported to have been electrified upto October, 2002. The district-wise details are given in the Statement I (*See* below.).

Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board (MPSEB) have proposed to electrify 221 villages during the year 2002-03, out of which 49 villages are reported to have been electrified upto October, 2002. The district-wise details are given in the Statement II (*See* below).

(c) The Planning Commission have made an allocation of Rs. 1061.00 lakhs for rural electrification work to Rajasthan as Additional Central Assistance for the year 2002-03 and the first instalment i.e. 50% amount has been released.