

### Gas Turbines in Orissa

3417. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up suitable number of gas turbines to meet the power demand in Orissa until major thermal stations like Ib Thermal and Talcher Super Thermal are commissioned ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and how far those will meet the power demand of the State ; and

(c) the other measures being taken to solve the problem of Orissa State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (c) The Orissa State Electricity Board have proposed to set up two sets of Gas Turbine Plants of 3X30 MW capacity, one each at Bhubaneshwar and Jaipur Road. The project could be considered for techno-economic clearance after necessary inputs, such as the availability of fuel on a sustained basis, have been tied up.

The energy availability in Orissa during April-October, 1985 was 2487 MU, as against the anticipated requirement of 3113 MU. In order to increase power availability in the State, additional generating capacity of 483.5 MW is programmed to be commissioned during the Seventh Plan period.

In addition, Orissa would receive benefits of 31 MW from the Chukha Hydel

Project in Bhutan ( $4 \times 84$  MW) and a share of 75 MW from the Farakka STPS, Stage-I ( $3 \times 210$  MW), when these units are commissioned in the Seventh Plan. Central assistance is also being provided to modernise and renovate the Talcher Thermal Power Station.

### Increase in rate of Electricity

3418. SHRI S.G. GHOLAP : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that States like Maharashtra have increased the rate of electricity from 30 per cent to 70 per cent as per directive from the Union Government ; and

(b) if so, the number of States which have raised the rates of electricity and to what extent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) Under the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, the power to fix and revise tariff is vested in the State Electricity Board. The Act, according to an amendment effective 1-4-1985, requires a State Electricity Board to carry on its operations and adjust its tariff, so as to earn a surplus of not less than 3% (or such higher percentage as the State Government may specify) of the value of the fixed assets of the Board in service at the beginning of the year. According to the information available, nine State Electricity Boards have revised their tariffs after 1-4-1985 to the extent indicated in the statement given below :