

[English]

Coal-Based Foreign Power Project in Maharashtra

1203. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal-based Power project is proposed to be set up at Chandrapur in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra with the help of foreign Power companies;

(b) whether the Union Government have given clearance to this project; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes Sir. M/s. Nippon Denro Ispat Limited and M/s Ispat Alloys Limited of India are proposing to set up a 1084 MW Coal based Thermal Power Plant at Bhadravati near Chandrapur of Maharashtra, in collaboration with GEC of UK and EDF of France.

(b) and (c) The promoters are pursuing various clearances required for the project from Central and State agencies. Investment Promotion Cell of Ministry of Power is assisting the promoters in getting the clearances *whenever necessary*.

Private Sector Entry in LPG Marketing

1204. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "private sector entry in LPG marketing resented" appearing in the 'Econom-

ic Times' dated May 21, 1994;

(b) if so, whether the Government of West Bengal has represented to the Union Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) While the Ministry had received a message from the Government of West Bengal in February, 1993, protesting against the introduction of Parallel Marketing of Kerosene and LPG and expressing apprehensions of diversion of kerosene from Public Distribution System (PDS) and subsidised LPG into the open market and requested immediate reversal of the decision, the West Bengal Government in April, 1994 issued orders and guidelines to its officials regarding the implementation of Parallel Marketing System in the State.

Telephone Facility

1205. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the achievement made by the Government in providing telephone facility during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the target for the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the amount earmarked for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI