

(a) whether any techno-economic evaluation was carried out for tidal power project in Orissa;

(b) if so, the finding thereof and the decision taken thereon; and

(c) if not, the details of Government's action plan to utilise tidal power for Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No techno-economic evaluation of any tidal power project in Orissa has been carried out by the Central Electricity Authority.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present, the Government has no action plan to develop tidal power in Orissa.

Industrial Development in Orissa

207. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:
SHRI BHAJAMAN BEHERA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give priority to Orissa in the matter of industrial development through the special programme to remove regional imbalances; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). The industrialisation of a State is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. However, in order to promote industrialisation and reduce regional imbalances, the Central Government offers a number of incentives such as priority in the grant of industrial licences, concessional finance, exemption from income-tax etc. to entrepreneurs setting up units in centrally declared backward

areas. In the case of Orissa, a total of 8 backward districts are eligible for such concessions. In addition, the Central Government has also sanctioned 3 growth centres to Orissa under the No Industry District-Infrastructural Development Scheme which are under various stages of implementation. Growth centres are also proposed to be established in Orissa under the new Growth Centre Scheme.

Rail Network in North-Eastern Region

208. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway net-work in North Eastern region, more particularly in Tripura State is scanty; and

(b) if so, the programme for expansion of this net-work for the development of rail coverage in this region?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Construction of six new line projects totalling 323 kms have already been approved in the Region. Two of these have been opened recently.

Provision of passengers bus at Calicut Airport

209. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide passenger buses at Calicut airport in Kerala for taking passengers from and to the aircraft and from the airport to the city and back especially in view of heavy rains in the areas; and

(b) if so, the time by which the buses