

the amount of expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Three Units of 210 MW of Tenughat Thermal Power Station under Stage-II were sanctioned by Planning Commission in February, 1989 at an estimated cost of Rs. 669.10 crores.

(b) Bihar State Electricity Board- the Project authorities had indicated in October, 1990, that the revised estimated cost of the project was Rs. 825.0 crores.

(c) The commissioning schedule for the Project cannot be anticipated as the order for the main plant and equipment in respect of the above project has not been placed by project authorities so far.

[English]

Financial Assistance by R.E.C. to State Electricity Boards

2779. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rural Electrification Corporation is funding the projects formulated by the State Electricity Boards and the Rural Electrification Cooperative Societies;

(b) if so, the norms laid down in this regard;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to direct these organisations to adopt a uniform policy;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to ((e). In order to be eligible for financial assistance from the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), rural electrification projects are required to achieve the minimum Economic Rate of Return (ERR) prescribed for different categories of projects. However, no specific ERR has been prescribed in the case of loans for Rural Electric Cooperative Projects, electrification projects of Harijan Bastis and Special Loans for improving the quality of rural power supply.

There is no proposal of Government to direct Rural Electrification Corporation to review the present norms being adopted by it for funding the RE schemes. The existing arrangement is considered satisfactory.

Dabhol Power Plant in Maharashtra

2780. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a power project near Dabhol in North Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). A project feasi-