

SWITZERLAND

(a) The Swiss Vice President and Federal Councillor for Economic Affairs Mr. Jean-Pascal Delamuraz paid an official visit to India from 4th to 8th February 1995 on the invitation of the Finance Minister. He was accompanied by 16 senior executives including a number of Chief Executive Officers from leading Swiss Companies representing a wide range of sectors and a high level official delegation with senior officials from both the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Economy.

(b) Mr. Delamuraz held talks with Finance Minister and Commerce Minister and called on the Vice President. During the meeting with the Finance Minister, various bilateral and international issues of common concern were discussed by the two sides.

(c) and (d) No agreements were signed during the visit.

GERMANY

(a) The following German Ministers visited India recently:

(i) Bavarian Minister for Economy, Transport and Technology, Dr. Otto Wiesheu, visited India from 22—29 January, 1995.

(ii) Minister-President of Baden-Wuerttemberg, Mr. Erwin Teufel, visited India from February 16—26, 1995.

(b) The Bavarian Minister met the following:

- (i) Finance Minister
- (ii) Commerce Minister
- (iii) Shri Salman Khurshid, Minister of State for External Affairs

The Minister-President of Baden-Wuerttemberg met:

- (i) Minister of Communications
- (ii) Minister of Power
- (iii) Finance Minister
- (iv) Shri Salman Khurshid, Minister of State for External Affairs.

The discussion focused on India's economic reforms programme and the opportunities available for foreign investment particularly in the key-infrastructure areas, such as power and telecommunications.

(c) and (d) No official/government agreements were signed during the visits.

[Translation]

Power shortage in Madhya Pradesh

843. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up new power plants in Madhya Pradesh to increase generation of Power; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and names of the places where these plants are proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL):

16—470 LSS/95.

(a) and (b) The following power projects are envisaged to yield benefits in the State of Madhya Pradesh during the Eighth Plan Period:

S.No.	Name of the Project	Capacity(M'V)	District
HYDRO			
1.	Tawa LBC	4×3	Hoshangabad
2.	Hasdeo Bango	3×40	Bilaspur
3.	Bansagar Tons	2×15+3×20	Rewa
4.	Rajghat (Joint Sector)	22.5	Lalitpur & Guna
5.	Bansagar Tons-IV	20	Rewa
THERMAL			
6.	Sanjay Gandhi Unit 1 & 2	2×210	Shahdol
7.	Sanjay Gandhi Unit 3 & 4	2×210	Birsinghpur
8.	Pench TPS	2×210	Chhindwara

[English]

Foreign Power Companies in India

844. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce competitive bidding in sanctioning permits for foreign-built and foreign managed power plants in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) to (c) The Government of India vide letter dated 18.1.1995 has informed all the State Governments that in future private power projects should come through the process of competitive bidding instead of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) route.

[Translation]

Tehri Dam Project

845. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the stage at which the under-construction Dam Project in Tehri Garhwal, district of Uttar Pradesh is lying at present.

(b) the time schedule to complete the above project and the total cost thereof;

(c) keeping in view the progress of work at present the time likely to be taken to complete the same; and

(d) the cost over-run likely to be incurred thereon till then?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI): (a) Presently, Stage I of Tehri Hydro Power Complex, viz. Tehri Dam and HPP (1000 MW) is under construction. Considerable physical progress has been made on State I works.

All the four diversion tunnels have been completed and the river diverted through the two Right Bank Tunnels. The foundation of the main dam over the entire length of 1.1 km has been laid and the Coffer dam as well as main