

regard to the power sector, the Indian side took note of the expertise available in GDR and agreed to give all necessary assistance in selecting cooperation partners in India.

Specific coal projects identified for collaboration are Niljai Opencast Project in Western Coalfields Ltd. and Ramagundam II Opencast Project in Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. The GDR side has submitted a techno-economic study for the exploitation and operation of a Lignite Mine III at Neyveli and a hydrogeological model for the Neyveli Basin. Cooperation with the GDR is envisaged in the Lignite projects at Palana in Rajasthan and Panandhro in Gujarat. The GDR side has also sent offers for the reconstruction of the briquetting process and modernisation of the existing Briquetting and Carbonisation (B & C) Plant at Neyveli. They have also made an offer for a feasibility study for the construction of a new B & C Plant. Final decision on these offers would be made by December, 1985 January, 1986.

Joint Sector Projects for Power Generation

2337. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to set up joint sector projects for power generation, thermal as well as hydro-electric ;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions of management of such enterprises ; and

(c) whether Government propose to ensure that the proposed joint sector power generation units serve the social purposes for which these are being set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Thermal Power Station at Sagardighi

2338. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the proposal submitted by the West Bengal Government for constructing a Thermal Power Station at Sagardighi (Monigram) in the District of Murshidabad ; and

(b) the reaction of the Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) had received, in October, 1982, a proposal for setting up of a Thermal Power Station (4 × 500 MW) in Murshidabad District of West Bengal at an estimated cost of Rs. 1385.0 crores. However, in September, 1983 the West Bengal State Electricity Board informed the Central Electricity Authority about their intention to instal 5 × 210 MW units in Stage-I to be augmented by 2 × 500 MW units in Stage-II. The modified proposal has not been received.

Insurance Cover for LPG Consumers

2339. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state whether Government propose to introduce compulsory insurance cover for LPG consumers in view of increasing gas bursts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : Each LPG distributor has a third party insurance coverage which entitles the consumer or his legal heirs to get compensation.

New Telephone Exchanges in Bangalore City

2340. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER ; Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new telephone exchanges proposed to be opened during 1985-86 in Bangalore city ; and

(b) the areas which will be covered by these new telephone exchanges ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a)
Nil, Sir.

(b) Nil, Sir.

**Demand for Increase in Commission to
L.P.G. Distributors**

2341. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER :
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of commission paid to
LPG distributors for each Cylinder at
present ;

(b) when the commission was enhanced
last ;

(c) whether the LPG Distributors
Association has submitted any Memorandum
to Government for further enhancement of
the LPG distributors' commission ; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Govern-
ment in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL
KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Rs. 3.62
per cylinder.

(b) 1.3.81

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Government is constantly
reviewing the question of dealers commission
on LPG. A further review will be consid-
ered at an appropriate time. However,
in order to improve the profitability of the
dealers the Government has increased the
limit of the refills per dealer w.e.f. 29.10.85.

Schemes for Increasing Power Production

2342. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU : Will
the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to
state :

(a) whether any special incentive scheme
was introduced in 1983 budget for increasing
power production ;

(b) if so, the impact of that scheme ;
and

(c) the names of States which have
increased power generation taking advantage
of that scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF
MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (c) An
incentive award scheme for better perfor-
mance of thermal power stations was intro-
duced in the year 1983-84. The scheme is
meant to motivate the employees working in
the power stations to improve power
generation. There has been improvement in
thermal generation with the all India average
PLF being 47.9% in 1983-84 and 50.1% in
1984-85. The scheme acts as an incentive
for better performance. The names of the
power stations which have received incentive
awards during 1983 and 1984 are given
below :—

1983	1984
Neyveli TPS	Amarkantak TPS
Parli TPS	Parli TPS
Gandhinagar TPS	Vijayawada TPS
Vijayawada TPS	Neyveli TPS
	Kota TPS
	Kothagudam TPS
	Korba STPS
	I.P. Station
	Durgapur TPS.

Besides, Andhra Pradesh SEB,
Maharashtra SEB, Punjab SEB, National
Thermal Power Corporation and Neyveli
Lignite Corporation received awards under
the scheme in 1983 for increasing their
overall Plant Load Factor.

Mini/Micro Hydel Units

2343. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU : Will
the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to
state :

(a) the names of States which have
installed mini/micro hydel units ;

(b) whether any of the States has
installed imported mini/micro generators ;
and