

(d) Government's policy towards import of technology is selective and based on national priorities. Import of technology is permitted in sophisticated and high priority areas, in export oriented or import substitution manufacturing or for enabling indigenous industry to update existing technology in India to meet efficiently domestic requirements and/or to become competitive in the export market.

**Non-Payment of Outstanding Amount
by U.P. Govt. for Power Purchased
from N.T.P.C.**

396. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the amounts outstanding from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for the power purchased from the National Thermal Power Corporation and the reasons for non-payment;

(b) whether the State Government has reviewed the agreement for the bulk purchase of power; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) An amount of Rs. 61.94 crores is outstanding as on 8-11-85 against the Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board (UPSEB) for power purchased from Singrauli Super Thermal Power Station (STPS) of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC). According to the NTPC, the UPSEB has indicated shortage of funds as the reason for non payment of these dues.

(b) The new draft agreement for purchase of power by the UPSEB from the singrauli STPS has been discussed on 28th and 29th October, 1985 and finalised between the parties.

(c) Does not arise.

**Improvement in the Capacity Utilisation
of Thermal Power Plants**

397. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the increase regarding power generation during the period April to September, 1985;

(b) how the increased generation compares with the targets and reasons for shortfall, if any;

(c) the gap between the current demand and supply of power and the percentage of deficit in supply; and

(d) the improvement made in the capacity utilisation of thermal power plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b). The actual generation during April-September 1985 was 8.8% more than the corresponding period of 1984. It was however 0.8% less than the target. The shortfall was on account of reduced hydel generation due to low hydel reservoir levels.

(c) The gap between current demand and supply is about 32 million units per day which works out to about 7%.

(d) The average plant load factor of thermal power plants during April-September 1985 was 50.5% as against 45.7% during the corresponding period of last year.

**Laying of Pipeline from Bombay to U.P.
through Vidarbha Region**

398. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have represented to the Union Government to lay a gas pipeline from Bombay High to U. P. through Vidharbha instead of Arabian sea;

(b) if so, the action initiated by the Union Government in this regard; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government of Maharashtra had suggested that the HBJ gas pipeline be taken along the Central Railway route, i.e., Surat, Bhusawal, Itarsi, Bhopal, and then to Jagdishpur.