

have since been taken up for implementation; and

(b) if so, the progress so far made in regard to each project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b). Project Reports in respect of the three gas-based Stations have been techno-economically appraised by the Central Electricity Authority. These project are now being considered for investment decision.

Setting up of Small Power Houses by Private Sector

1339. SHRI U. H. PATEL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Minister of Energy of Gujarat had stated in Rajkot that, in order to remove the shortage of power, the State Government was very much interested in setting up small power houses by private sector and would extend all possible assistance to it;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the special assistance that will be provided by the Union Government to Gujarat Government and private sector for setting up such power houses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b). According to information received from the Government of Gujarat, the Minister of State for Energy, Gujarat, during an informal meeting on 31-10-1985 with the Chamber of Commerce at Rajkot, welcomed the idea of setting up small captive plants (of about 5 to 10 MW) in Industrial Estates at various places in the State to supplement the efforts of private industrialists in meeting their power needs. The State Government do not envisage provision of any financial help for such plants.

(c) Permission to instal captive plants is accorded where the requirement of power is substantial and continuous and reliable power supply is necessary. The State Electricity Boards are empowered to give such permission if the capacity is upto 25 MW;

consultation with the Central Electricity Authority is necessary in cases where the proposed capacity is more than 25 MW. No special assistance is provided by the Central Government in such cases.

Reduction in Price of Cooking Gas

1340. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the cost of production of LPG cooking gas is practically negligible;

(b) if so, the relationship it has got with the price that is being charged from the consumers; and

(c) whether Government propose to reduce the price of cooking gas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

Implementation of Reservation Rules in Recruitment and Promotions in Engineering Projects (India) Ltd.

1341. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether reservation rules in recruitment and promotions are being implemented in Engineering Projects (India) Ltd.;

(b) the total strength of the employees of Engineering Projects (India) Ltd. and strength of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes employees in the organization as on 1 May 1985 in each group;

(c) the reasons for the shortfall, if any and the steps proposed to be taken to fill the backlog of reserved vacancies; and

(d) the number of posts de-reserved during the last three years ?