

the assistance proposed to be given by Government for construction of buildings for District Industries Centres of the State which do not have their own buildings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Construction of 54 DIC buildings have been completed. All facilities and services required by entrepreneurs are being provided by the DICs as far as possible.

(b) and (c). Such information is not monitored by the Central Government.

(d) The Ceiling of Central assistance for non-recurring expenditure has been fixed at Rs. 4 lakhs per DIC with effect from 1985-86.

Lack of orders for BHEL due to liberalisation of import policy

9044. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :

SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the reports that consequent upon liberalisation of import policy, various State Electricity Boards and undertakings are importing technology and heavy machinery for power generation ;

(b) if so, whether as a result of this trend, the order-list or power generating equipment with Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited has been shrinking considerably ;

(c) the present volume of orders with the BHEL and the percentage of its capacity which can be utilised in complying with these orders during the current-year and how it will compare with the percentage capacity of production during past two years ; and

(d) Government's reaction to this reduction in order-list ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) Based on firm orders received as on 31.3.86, the capacity utilisation of BHEL for the Seventh Plan period would be 59%

for thermal and 32% for hydro sets. Constraint of resources for the setting up of new power plants is the principal cause of the low order book position. However, for 1986-87, the capacity utilisation for manufacture of thermal sets is estimated at 80% and for hydro sets at 33% ; these figures compare well with the capacity utilisation during the past two years.

It is Government's policy to ensure maximum utilisation of the indigenous capacity. Imports is resorted to only selectively and on merits, depending on the totality of circumstances.

Projects on Hydrogen Energy Technology

9045. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has sponsored project on various aspects of hydrogen energy technology ; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An R and D programme covering production of hydrogen based on solar energy, storage of hydrogen in the form of metal hydrides and utilisation as fuel substitute for conventional liquid fuels is being implemented by the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources at various research and educational institutions with the help of a National Technical Advisory Committee on Hydrogen Energy.

Closure of Paper Units

9046. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many paper units in the country are on the verge of closure ;

(b) if so, the names of such paper mills ;

(c) the reasons of the sickness of those paper mills ; and

(d) the steps taken to revive those mills ?