

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). In order to boost hydro power development, a number of steps are being taken. Some of these are :

- (i) supplementing the efforts of the States by taking up hydro projects in the Central Sector through NHPC and NEEPCO;
- (ii) financing hydel projects through external sources, wherever feasible;
- (iii) identifying potential hydro projects for taking advance action during the Seventh Plan.

Approach of EEC on industrial co-operation and technology transfer

7169. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and the European Economic Community (EEC) are divided over the industrial co-operation and technology transfer process, involving relatively advanced technologies;

(b) whether the working group on industrial co-operation which was to identify sectors and draw up a work programme has not made any headway in this sphere so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) India's integrated approach to Indo-EEC trade promotion programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). The first Meeting of the India-European Community Working Group on Industrial Co-operation of the Indo-EEC Joint Commission was held in New Delhi on 25-26 March, 1987.

Several areas like Energy, Telecommunication, Electronics, Science and Technology including Bio-technology, Steel Engineering, etc. have been identified for mutual co-operation.

(d) The Government of India submits proposals to EEC Commission every year for trade promotion assistance. These trade promotion proposals are basically aimed at the integrated product and market development to boost India's exports.

Import of Machinery and equipment by Neyveli Lignite Corporation

7170. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 4460 on 2nd December, 1986 regarding import of machinery and equipment by Neyveli Lignite Corporation and state :

(a) whether the Neyveli Lignite Corporation is required to obtain sanction from the DGTD of SIA (Secretariat for Industrial Approvals) for import of equipment and machinery;

(b) if so, whether any applications for sanction were received by the above authorities in the year 1983, 1984, 1985 and in 1987 so far;

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(d) the details of guidelines for import approvals for public sector undertakings to ensure import of good quality equipment and machinery only ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Applications for import of plant and machinery (other than those covered under OGL) are first examined by the DGTD and the Administrative Ministry/Department from the point of view of indigenous availability and essentiality. Depending upon the value involved, these applications are placed before the concerned Approval Committee for a final decision before issuing sanctions. Neyveli Lignite Corporation has also to follow the procedure outlined above.

(b) and (c). No application for the import of plant and machinery from Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited have been received by Directorate General of Technical Development or the Secretariat for Industrial