

part of the Colonising Agencies/Cooperative Group Housing Societies stand completed, within six months.

World Bank Loan for Power Project in U.P.

1003. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) how much loan has been sanctioned recently by the World Bank for power projects in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) how this loan will be utilised; and

(c) how it will effect the improvement of power supply in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) to (c). The World Bank are providing loan assistance of \$ 350 million for the Uttar Pradesh power project. The Legal Agreements are yet to be signed. The composite project would cover the implementation of the Srinagar hydro-electric project (330 MW), the rehabilitation of the Obra 'B' and Harduaganj 'A' thermal power stations and the associated transmission system assisting, thereby in meeting the power demand in the State.

Collaboration in Ib Valley in Orissa

1004. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bechtel, a giant American Corporation has asked for collaboration in Ib Valley in Orissa with Hinduja Group;

(b) if so, the details of this project; and

(c) the decision taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) to (c). It is a fact that M/s. Bechtel in association with the Hinduja Group evinced interest in the setting up of the proposed Ib Valley Thermal Project of 4X210 MW on a turn-key basis. The project has been sanctioned for implementation in the State Sector. M/s. Orissa Power Generation Corporation have placed a letter of intent on M/s. BHEL for implementation of the project.

ONGC Tenders for Rig Charter Hire

1005. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of companies identified being eligible to bid for the Oil and Natural Gas Commission tenders for rig charter hire,

(b) whether Mazagon Dock Ltd. is one of the companies; and

(c) whether Government will accord any preference to this key defence establishment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) The global tenders floated by ONGC for the charter hire of rig are open to all companies desirous of participating in them.

(b) Mazagon Dock Ltd. has so far not participated in any tender floated by the ONGC for the charter hire of rigs.

(c) All domestic companies in the oil field services sector are entitled inter alia to a price preference over the lowest technically acceptable foreign offer ranging from 10% to 40% based on imported, leased/ owned or indigenously manufactured,