

**THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM):** (a) and (b). Yes Sir. The general guidelines for the goodwill visits of the Chiefs of Staff to other countries have been evolved from time to time. The guidelines relate to the factors to be kept in view from Defence point of view, the political and other considerations while finalising list of countries to be visited by them and spacing of these visits during a particular year. The Chiefs of Staff discuss the proposals relating to their visits amongst themselves for purposes of co-ordination well in advance.

**Need for Large Sized Project of Power Generation either in Saurashtra or North Gujarat**

**375. SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Gujarat has pointed out to the Union Government that all sources of generation are located in South Gujarat and there is no large sized project of power generation either in Saurashtra or in North Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether this has resulted in lack of balance, heavy loss of transmission and high cost of transmission;

(c) if so, whether in view of availability of free gas from Tapti High fields and improved prospects of getting larger quantum of gas, the State Government feel that there is more need and justification to establish a Super Power Station based on gas in Saurashtra;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Gujarat State has already submitted a proposal in this regard to the Central Government; and

(e) what are the main reasons for delay in taking a final decision?

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN):** (a) and (b). The major power plants in

Gujarat are located in South and Central Gujarat and near Ahmedabad at present, mainly in view of the logistic advantage of transporting fuel to these sites. While power requirements of Saurashtra have to be met by transporting power from these sources entailing certain transmission losses, this has to be considered in the overall context of optimum location of power plants with respect to load centres and sources of fuel.

(c) to (e). No project report for establishment of a large thermal power station in Saurashtra based on utilisation of gas has been received. However, Gujarat Government has been presenting their case for allocation of gas for power generation and has also suggested use of gas for power generation in Saurashtra, in view of the logistic problems of setting up of a power station based on coal there. These have to be considered in the small context of optimum utilisation of gas. A Working Group to consider these aspects has been set up for this purpose by the Ministry of Petroleum.

**Coal Quota to Gujarat State**

**376. SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has requested the Centre for sanction of more quota of coal to the State during the current financial year;

(b) if so, what is the quantity of coal supplied to the State and to what extent they have demanded the increase in coal supply;

(c) how much increased quota has been agreed to by the Government; and

(d) if not, the main reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA):** (a) and