

Difficulties of the People of Bilaspur District Caused by the Construction of Bhakra Dam

7705. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of a road around Gobind Sagar Lake as also the construction of 2 bridges on the Sutlej river on Ali Khud have been demanded by the people of Bilaspur District of Himachal Pradesh and is under the consideration of the Bhakra Beas Management Board so as to remove the genuine difficulties of the people of Bilaspur District caused by the construction of Bhakra Dam;

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard by the Government so far; and

(c) if no action has been taken, the likely date by which this would be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir. There has been neither any demand in the recent past, nor is there any proposal, for the construction of a road around Gobind Sagar Lake or the construction of two bridges on the river Sutlej on Ali Khud.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Steps taken to make the Country free from Electric Breakdown/Load Shedding

7706. SHRI CHANDRABHAN ATHARE PATIL: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that all the advanced countries depend on electricity-Hydro Thermal for all purposes and the people there do not have to face any breakdowns or frequent load sheddings;

(b) what steps are being taken to make this country or at least the big towns free from the electric breakdowns or load sheddings; and

(c) what is the average loss of man hours in various industries in each State due to load sheddings during 1978, 1979 and 1980?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of steps have been taken to improve the power availability in the country. These measures include:—

SHORT TERM MEASURES

(i) Maximising generation from the existing installed capacity in the Central Sector. State Governments have also been advised to similarly maximise generation from their installed capacity;

(ii) expediting commissioning of new generation capacity in the central sector, and advising the State to take similar steps;

(iii) monitoring of coal stocks at thermal power stations and ensuring availability of coal;

(iv) arranging supply of spare parts from indigenous and foreign suppliers; and

(v) transfer of power from surplus to deficit areas.

LONG-TERM MEASURES

(i) Additions of 19903 MW of new generating capacity has been planned for installation during the period 1980—85;

(ii) Training of engineers for operation and maintenance of power stations;

(iii) identification of deficiencies in design, equipment etc. and taking up a project renovation programme for rectifications/replacement etc. at a number of power stations; and