

Decision at Power Ministers Conference

4219. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN;
 SHRI S. M. KRISHNA;
 SHRI BHIKHU RAM JAIN;
 SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN;
 SHRI CHITTA MAHATA;
 SHRI BHAGWAN DEV:

Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recently held Power Ministers conference in New Delhi had decided to step up generation at the existing power plants, to speed up the commissioning of projects under construction and to build a national powergrid in the next two years; and

(b) if so, what are the concrete follow up action being taken to implement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b): One of the most important objectives in holding the Conference of Power Ministers of States was to give new direction to State Electricity Boards to reorganise their operations on modern management concepts. In the Conference, consensus was arrived at to introduce certain new ideas such as setting up of betterment-cum-renovation teams for each of the Power Stations, comprehensive implementation schedules and cash flow projections for each of the new or 'on-going' projects, development of a long term power plan for the country, professionalisation of various disciplines, and adoption of commercial approach in financial management and dealings with suppliers etc. The progress of on-going projects was reviewed at the Conference with a view to solving problems impending speedy implementation.

No specific period for building a national grid was decided in the Con-
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ference, as the construction and evolution of such a grid is a gradual and continuous process. However, the role of the Central Government in transmission was recognised in the general acceptance of all the States of the concept of a centrally-owned National Grid. It was accepted that the Centre will evolve suitable institutional arrangements in this regard.

Reserve of Coal in Talcher

4220. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what are the total proved reserves of coal in Talcher and Ib river coal fields in Orissa; and

(b) what are the plans for expansion of annual production from these coal fields by 1985?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) The total proved reserves of coal in Talcher and Ib river coalfields in Orissa are 912.95 and 82.79 million tonnes respectively for seams 0.5 metre and above in thickness and upto a maximum depth of 1200 metres.

(b) As per the latest assessment of demand of coal on Talcher and Ib valley coalfields, it is proposed to develop these coalfields for an annual production capacity from 2 million tonnes in 1980-81 to 3.45 million tonnes in 1984-85 and 0.72 million tonnes in 1980-81 to 1.53 million tonnes in 1984-85 respectively.

Power Generation since May 1980

4221. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state the latest position of power generation in the country since May, 1980 and to-date power station-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): A statement showing station-wise energy generation during the months of May and June, 1980 is attached.