

keeps a continual watch on the production and movement of coal, particularly to power stations.

Raichur Thermal Power Project, Karnataka

4351. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) when the Raichur Thermal Power Project in Karnataka is likely to be completed;
- (b) what is the total costs of expenditure involved;
- (c) what will be its total capacity;
- (d) what are the main causes of its delay;
- (e) to what extent the projects will provide electricity in the Karnataka State;
- (f) whether any foreign assistance was sought in respect of project;
- (g) what is the total expenditures so far involved; and
- (h) whether the delay in completing the construction has increased its cost; if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) The project is being executed by Mysore Power Corporation. As per information supplied by them the first unit of 210 MW capacity of Raichur Thermal Project is expected to be commissioned during 1982-83 and the second unit of 210 MW capacity by 1983-84.

(b) The revised estimated cost of the project is Rs. 220 crores.

(c) The total capacity of the project now sanctioned is 420 MW.

(d) The works at the project could not be commenced due to delay in handing over of the land.

(e) After the units are commissioned, additional 420 MW or 6.0 Million unit per day of electricity will be generated in Karnataka State.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) An expenditure of Rs. 21.42 crores has been incurred till the end of March, 1980.

(h) The original estimate of the project was Rs. 159.25 crores. The revised cost indicated by the project now is about Rs. 220 crores on account of escalation in the equipment cost and civil works.

Romania's Offer to set up Hydro Electric Power Stations

4352. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Romanian Government has offered India its full cooperation in regard to the setting up of a hydro power stations in the country;
- (b) if so, what are the details of the offer and cooperation made by them; and
- (c) what are the hydro power stations that are likely to be set up with the help and assistance of the Romanian Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) There has been no specific offer as yet, in this regard.

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

Giving Preference to Hydel Power Stations

4353. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has taken a final decision to give more preference to hydel power stations than the thermal power stations; and
- (b) if so, what are the main reasons for this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b). The Working Group on Energy Policy has recommended that the share of