

(ii) **Spare:** The spares ordered with the main plant and equipment have not been supplied in full so far.

(iii) **Coal:** Supply of oversized coal containing shale, stone and other foreign materials leading to frequent breakage of hammers of coal crushers.

(c) BHEL is concerned with problems relating to the turbine generator and boiler supplied by them.

Super Thermal Project at Farakka

385. SHRI R. P. DAS: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of the Farakka Super Thermal Project is progressing according to schedule;

(b) details of the schedule set for the year 1980-81 and the work done so far; and

(c) whether the first 200 MW unit at Farakka would be commissioned as per schedule already announced?

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

(b) the major milestone scheduled for 1980-81 is the order for the main plant which is progressing as per schedule so far. Procurement action for other major equipment packages is at various stages of completion. Other works namely, land acquisition, infrastructure development, earth-filling and foundation work and project engineering activities scheduled for the current year are also being carried out as per schedule. The major portion of land required for the project has been acquired and the balance is in various stages of acquisition. Arrangements for the water and power supply for construction have already been made. About 1.5 lakh cubic metres of earth-work has

been completed and foundation works have been taken up.

(c) According to the programme worked out and progress being made it is expected that the first unit would be commissioned according to schedule.

Credit agreement for the 2100 MW Farakka Project with the World Bank

386. SHRI R. P. DAS: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the latest credit agreement for the 2100 MW Farakka Project with the World Bank; and

(b) the terms on which the agreement was reached by both the parties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b). An agreement for partly financing the 600 MW phase of the Farakka Project was signed by the Government of India and the World Bank on 11th July, 1980. The agreement provides for an IDA Credit of US\$ 225 million and an IBRD Loan of US\$ 25 million for financing the ex-works/CIF cost of major equipment such as turbo generators, boilers, electrical, coal handling, transmission and other power station equipment. These equipments are to be procured under the World Bank guidelines of International Competitive Bidding. The proceeds of the Credit and loan are to be relented to National Thermal Power Corporation by the Government of India. Some of the other salient terms on which the credit and Loan agreements were arrived at are:—

(i) in respect of the credit of US\$ 225 million:

—Government of India will pay IDA a service charge of 3/4 per cent per annum on the principal amount withdrawn and outstanding from time to

time

—Repayment of principal amount will be in semi annual instalments commencing from October, 1990 and ending April, 2030.

(ii) in respect of the loan for US \$ 25 million:

—Government of India shall pay IBRD a commitment charge at the rate of 3/4 per cent per annum on the principal amount of the loan not withdrawn from time to time.

—Interest will be paid at the rate of 8.25 per cent per annum on the principal amount of the loan withdrawn and outstanding from time to time.

—Repayment of the principal amount of the loan will be over a period of 15 years in accordance with the amortization schedule set forth in the agreement.

Irrigation Potential

387. SHRI R. P. DAS: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of irrigation potential that remains idle all over the country; and

(b) the steps taken for more efficient utilisation of the potential?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Irrigation potential remaining unutilised to the end of June 1980 was about 3.0 million hectares.

(b) For efficient utilisation of the potential command area development programme has been taken up. 76 projects have been included in this programme and 44 command area development authorities have been so far set up covering 71 projects. Provision of proper drainage system in the command area to prevent water-logging, land levelling and shaping, construction of field channels to enable

supply of irrigation water to individual fields instead of from field to field as now, introduction of system of rotational supply of irrigation water, building up the necessary infra-structure such as roads, marketing facilities, credit arrangements, support prices for agricultural commodities etc., are some of the items covered in this programme.

Proposal to set up four autonomous regional power agencies

388. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to set up four autonomous regional power agencies in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b). While no decision has yet been taken, the Committee on Power headed by Shri V. G. Rajadhyaksha, former Member, Planning Commission, have in their report suggested the formation of four regional electricity generation corporations in addition to NEEPCO which is already functioning in the north-eastern region. These organisations would integrate the generation activities of thermal and hydel power stations in the central sector in their respective regions. Question of creation of these bodies, would be considered at the appropriate time when the various recommendations of the Committee are taken up.

Proposal to increase storage capacity for crude and petroleum products

389. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to increase the indi-