

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b). No proposal has been received by the Central Electricity Authority for setting up of a thermal power plant in U.P. by the private sector. However, a reference was received from U.P. State Electricity Board by Central Electricity Authority forwarding a proposal of the U.P. State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. for installation of captive generating sets of 2x30 MW capacity. This plant was proposed to be jointly promoted by UPSIDC and the industrial units in Bulandshehar area. Since the proposal lacked in essential details, it was referred back to U.P. State Electricity Board by Central Electricity Authority. Revised detailed proposal has not yet been received from U.P. State Electricity Board.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

(e) and (f). M/s. Tata Electric Company have sent to the Maharashtra State Government a proposal to instal one more set of 500 MW at their Trombay thermal power station. The proposal is under consideration of the State Government and no decision has yet been taken by them. There is no proposal to establish private thermal plants in Aurangabad area.

Views expressed by Soviet Oil Expert on availability of Oil and Gas in India

1250. SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the view expressed by world famous Soviet oil expert, Professor N. A. Kalinin that on the basis of calculations and long-term forecasts, India can extract oil upto 35 million tonnes and gas upto 37 billion Cu. metres yearly and maintain this level of extraction for 25 years;

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(b) whether Government are aware that Professor Kalinin noted that the land prospects are very good, especially in West Bengal regions of Bodhra and Professor Canning, junction point Mymensigh—with vault reefs and delta formations, in the Cambay basin, region of Ankleshwar at depths not exceeding 5000—6000 m., in Punjab at Mesozoic-Cainozoic deposits in the limits of Jwalamukhi and Dharamsala;

(c) if so, what steps have been taken in this matter; and

(d) the details of the work so far done by the ONGC in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) The Government is aware of the opinion expressed by Professor N. A. Kalinin.

(b) Government is also aware of Professor Kalinin's views regarding hydrocarbon prospects in Bodra and Port Canning areas of West Bengal, deep mesozoic prospects of Jawalamukhi and Dharamsala areas of Himachal Pradesh.

(c) An exploration and production programme has been drawn up by a team of Indian and Soviet Experts for all the onshore basins. This envisages a production of 5.80 million tonnes of oil and 1000 million cubic metres of gas per annum by ONGC from the Onshore areas by the end of 1984-85.

(d) ONGC have conducted surveys in these areas and have also drilled (as on 1-7-1981) a total of 6 wells in West Bengal, 1270 wells in the Cambay Basin, 2 wells in Punjab and 8 wells in Himachal Pradesh.

Telephone faults in Calcutta area

1251. SHRI SUNIL MAITRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many telephone faults were reported in the area covered by

Calcutta Telephones in the period between January 1981 and July, 1981;

(b) how many of these faults could be corrected within one day|one week|one month|two months|three months;

(c) what steps Government have taken to prevent such appallingly increasing number of faults; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to rectify the faults speedily after they were reported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON):

(a) A total of 4,42,964 faults were reported in the areas covered by Calcutta Telephones during the period between January, 1981 to July, 1981

(b) Out of these faults, 37.67 per cent were cleared within one day. 84.49 per cent within one week, 96.78 per cent within one month. 99.14 within two months and 99.97 per cent could be cleared within three months

(c) The following steps have been taken to prevent faults and to improve the network performance:

(i) gas pressurisation of main underground cables;

(ii) construction of underground cable ducts;

(iii) replacement of damaged cables;

(iv) installation of cabinets and pillars for underground telephone cables;

(v) use of jelly-filled cables in the distribution network;

(vi) provision of microwave and PCM functions between exchanges;

(vii) checking of telephone instruments and fittings and taking remedial action thereon;

(viii) close coordination with different utility agencies who are performing digging operations.

(d) External plant maintenance has been reorganised and exclusive cable maintenance division under D.E. (Cables) has been formed in each main exchange area for speedy repair of the cable faults. Another Divisional engineer looks after the remaining part of external line plant of such exchange areas. The faults position is monitored every day at various levels of the Calcutta Telephones Organisation.

DVC's supply of power to Calcutta

1252. SHRI R. P. DAS: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the claim of DVC authority in respect of its steady rate of growth in power generation does not at all correspond to the erratic supply to the Calcutta area during the last three months; and

(b) whether Government have any proposal to make the DVC commercially viable and thereby enable the DVC authority to honour the agreements that it had entered into?

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THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) The average daily generation in DVC has shown improvement. The average supply to Calcutta has been approx. 1.632 M.U. per day during the last three months. Calcutta city is supplied not only by the DVC, but by the Calcutta Electricity Supply Corporation and by the other generating stations of the West Bengal State Electricity Board. Since DVC supplies power in bulk to Calcutta, it is not responsible for distribution within the city.

(b) The performance of DVC is continuously under review and every effort is being made to improve its working.