

S. E. Bs Asked to gear up capacity for optimum utilization

5925. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power being a critical variable factor in the industrial economics, the State Electricity Boards have been asked to gear up their capacity to utilise at optimum levels in power generation and distribution;

(b) if so, whether the functioning of the State Electricity Board has not improved to the extent it was expected;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government have issued any circular or directive to State Electricity Boards for their improvement; and

(d) if so, how many State Electricity have implemented the directive issued by the Union Government?

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

(b) There is considerable scope for improving the functioning of the State Electricity Boards in respect of execution and commissioning of new projects, utilisation of existing generation capacity, reduction of transmission and distribution losses etc.

(c) and (d) Specific guidelines have been issued to the State Electricity Boards to minimise delays in project constructions, improve their financial and operational efficiency and rationalise their tariff pattern. The guidelines given are to be implemented step by step and on a long term basis. The State Electricity Boards have responded favourably to the guidelines.

Setting up T.V. Centre at Cuttack, Orissa.

5926. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to set up a T.V. Centre at Cuttack in Orissa was under the consideration of Government;

(b) if so, whether that proposal is going to be implemented in the year 1982-83; and

(c) the progress made so far in implementing the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) A programme production centre at Cuttack already exists. A 10 Kw TV Transmitter is also expected to be commissioned by 1984-85.

(c) Site for transmitter has been selected, and orders for procurement of equipment have been placed on M/s. BEL. The transmitter equipment is expected to be received during 1982-83.

Assistance in cash and kind to State Electricity Boards to Generate more power

5927. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has offered assistance in cash as well as in kind to State Governments and State Electricity Boards in their efforts to generate more power;

(b) if so, when such offer has been made by his Ministry.

(c) the names of the State Governments or the State Electricity Boards which have responded to such offer so far; and