

Thermal Power Project in Birbhum District of West Bengal

2391. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have under consideration a proposal to set up a 840 MW Thermal Power Project in the district of Birbhum of West Bengal ; and

(b) if so, at what stage the proposal rests at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) National Thermal Power Corporation had envisaged installation of a 840 MW capacity regional thermal station in distt. Birbhum of West Bengal. However, the State Government of West Bengal informed the Central Government that they would prefer installation of a thermal power station (3×210 MW) in distt Birbhum in the State Sector by the W. B. State Electricity Board. Government have conveyed their agreement to the State Government's request. It is now for the WBSEB to implement their project.

Recommendations of National Convention of Bonded Labour Liberation Front

2392. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the recommendations made by the three-day National Convention of the Bandhuva Mukti Morcha (Bonded Labour Liberation Front) held in Delhi on 1-3 July, last ;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations ; and

(c) the reaction of Government there-to ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI DHARMAVIR) : (a) Attention of the Government has been drawn, through the press reports, etc., to the recommendations made by the three-day National Convention of the Bandhuva Mukti Morcha (Bonded Labour Liberation Front) held at Delhi from 29th June to 1st July, 1984 (and not from 1st to 3rd July, 1984, as mentioned in the Question).

(b) The following recommendations are reported to have been made at the Convention :—

- (i) Setting up of Special tribunals in problem-prone areas for identifying and rehabilitating the bonded labourers ;
- (ii) Immediately after his release, the bonded labourer must be provided with employment on a priority basis under Rural Labour Employment Guarantee Scheme.
- (iii) Broadcasting of programmes from All India Radio explaining the provision of the Bonded labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 and educating the bonded labourers about their rights.

(c) The recommendations/suggestions have been noted for taking necessary follow-up action in consultation with the concerned interests.

Negotiation for Tie-up Between ONGC and CFP of France for Off-Shore Exploration

2393. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have entered into negotiation for tie-up between Oil and Natural Gas Commission and CFP of France for off-shore exploration ; and