

(d) whether it is also a fact that the company has pleaded that, without conversion of metre gauge railway line to broad gauge from Hapa to Mithapur, movement of raw materials for the expanded capacity cannot take place effectively ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI R C RATH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir. Conversion of metre gauge railway line to broad gauge has, however, since been completed.

Sub-Committees of High Powered Committee on Soda Ash

1286 SHRI R.P. DAS : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(1) whether it is a fact that a High Powered Committee on Soda Ash, at its meeting held on 19th July, 1983, decided to form two Sub-Committees;

(b) if so, whether the two Sub-Committees have been formed;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that Consumer Associations have represented to Government repeatedly about the delay in forming the two Sub-Committees, if so, the action taken by Government on these representations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI R C. RATH) : (a) to (d) The All India Silicate Manufacturers' Association had represented for early formation of the two Sub-Committees. The two Sub-Committees of the High Powered Committee on Soda Ash have since been constituted on 1st March, 1984,

after due consideration with regard to their composition and terms of reference.

Setting up of 360 MW Power Station under a Joint Sector Project

1290. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Orissa is actively participating in a joint sector project for setting up a 360 MW power station which will act as a captive source of power for a number of power-intensive industries in the State;

(b) whether the project report has since been received by the Central Electricity Authority;

(c) the broad outlines of the project report; the names of the beneficiary industries and how it will be financed;

(d) whether some American firms have shown interest in this project; and

(e) if so, the particulars thereof and their likely investment in the project by way of technical assistance, plant and machinery and equity participation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Orissa has proposed power generation in the joint sector so that the gap between the demand for power and its availability can be reduced. The proposal envisages installation of 360 MW thermal capacity in the Ib valley.

(b) No project report has so far been received by the Central Electricity Authority.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) There is no such indication in the joint sector proposal outlined by Orissa.

(e) Does not arise.