

TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The observations in the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General on India (CAG) *inter-alia* refer to lapses in evolving standard manpower policies/practices and failure to follow prescribed administrative and financial procedure. CSIR has examined the observations and issued appropriate instructions for strict compliance.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Radio Station at Dhanbad

5837. PROF. RITA VERMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to setup a radio station at Dhanbad in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any obstacles exist in setting up the radio station at Dhanbad;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to remove those obstacles?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No, Madam.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[English]

#### Thermal Power Project in Visakhapatnam in A.P.

5838. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hinduja group has started negotiations with foreign lending agencies for credit of over \$800 million to part finance its \$1.2 billion thermal power project in Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the counter-guarantee for the project has been already cleared;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be commenced and completed; and

(e) the total power likely to be generated from this project?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (e) M/s. Hinduja National Power Corporation Limited, who are implementing the Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Project in Andhra Pradesh have informed that they have started negotiations with foreign lenders for financing the project. The Government has recently approved extension of counter-guarantee to this project through a revised procedure. It has, *inter-alia*, been decided that counter-guarantee will be given only for the event of termination and will be limited to the outstanding foreign debt only. The project has a total installed capacity of 1040 MW. The first unit of 520 MW is envisaged to be commissioned in 38 months and the second unit in 44 months after financial closure.

#### Auditing of Amount

5839. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2942 dated July 6, 1998 and state:

(a) whether the amount released by the National Open School Organisation to Kendriya Vidyalayas of Delhi is auditable;

(b) if so, the details of the audit report of preceding three years; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The audit reports for the last three years have not raised any objection regarding *pro-rata* payment made to Kendriya Vidyalayas in Delhi.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Hydel Project in Garhwal

5840. MAJ. GEN. BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state: