

[English]

Power Projects in Orissa

214. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of power projects in Orissa approved by the Union Government as on March 31, 1998;

(b) the target fixed for their completion during the current year and the progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c) The details are as follows :-

S. No.	Name of Project	Capacity (MW)	Commission Original	Schedule As now exp.	Remarks
1.	Talcher St. II (NTPC)				
	Unit I	500	3/2002	3/2002	-
	Unit II	500	12/2002	12/2002	-
	Unit III	500	9/2003	9/2003	-
	Unit IV	500	6/2004	6/2004	-
2.	Ib TPP Ph. II (OPGC)				
	Unit III	210	-	12/2001	Techno-economic
	Unit IV	210	-	06/2002	clearance given in Aug., 94 to the Ib Valley TPP (Unit III & IV) to M/s. IVPL Jharsuguda (Capacity 2x210 MW). The scheme however, has been retained by Govt. of Orissa. The IPP has submitted DPR for 2x250 MW capacity (Unit V & VI) on 21.8.1997 in lieu of this.

"Non-Timber Forest Produce Scheme"

215. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of the Non-timber Forest Produce Scheme for providing 100% financial assistance to the States with sizeable tribal population to sustain their livelihood;

(b) the budgetary allocation for the scheme for 1998-99 and the total area proposed to be covered during this period;

(c) whether under this Scheme the Government would consider allocating special funds for Meghalaya which is reeling under the Apex Court's timber felling ban, to switch over to cultivation of medicinal plants/herbs etc; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) The Non-Timber Forest

Produce Scheme has been approved for implementation in the 9th Plan. Projects worth Rs. 59.85 crores have been sanctioned for this period to cover approximately 52,000 hectares. The budgetary allocation for 1998-99 is Rs. 11 crores.

(c) and (d) An amount of Rs. 1.64 crores has been tentatively earmarked for Meghalaya under this scheme in the 9th Plan. The scheme allows for plantation of bamboo, canes, mixed species of medicinal value and regeneration of perennial herbs and shrubs.

Decentralisation of Literacy Programme

216. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Literacy Mission has recently recommended decentralisation of the literacy