

**Clearance to Naphtha based Power Plant in
Karnataka**

1818. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Government had sent any proposal for techno-economic clearance to the Central Electricity Authority for Naphtha based power plant in private sector at Nangangud in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether the clearance has since been accorded;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken for early clearance of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir, a proposal submitted by M/s. IPS Power Company for issue of techno-economic clearance (TEC) to the Nanjangud Naphtha based power plant (100 MW) was recommended by the Government of Karnataka to the Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

(b) and (c) The TEC could not be considered for want of certain essential inputs/clearances.

(d) The accord of TEC by CEA depends on the tying up of the pending inputs/clearances by the company.

Free Education for Girls

1819. SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to make education free for girls upto the college level including professional courses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes Sir, the Government propose to institute a scheme for free education for girls upto college level including professional courses.

(b) and (c) The proposed scheme is being framed and necessary details in this regard are being worked out.

[Translation]

Sale of Post Cards

1820. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sale of the competition post cards is becoming a loss making item to the Postal Department because of the less sale of ordinary post cards and also delay in their delivery as a result thereof; and

(b) if so, the efforts being made by the Government to keep a balance between the above monitored post cards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) No, Sir. The Service was not in loss when it was introduced in November, 1996. However, due to subsequent increase in overhead costs and as per 1997-98 Revised Estimates (Projection), the service is now making loss.

(b) The Government is considering suitable steps in the matter.

**Diplomas Awarded by Indian Institute of Mass
Communication**

1821. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :
SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether diplomas have been awarded without conducting any examination by the Indian Institute of Mass Communication;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to get the matter investigated and take action against the officials involved;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise.