

of the following four banks for arranging a loan of Japanese Yen 20 billion:-

- (i) BA Asia Limited Hongkong.
- (ii) IBJ Asia Limited Hongkong.
- (iii) Societe Generale Asia Limited, Hongkong; and
- (iv) Union Bank of Switzerland, Hongkong.

(c) The above loan is being arranged to refinance the following earlier loans -

- (i) Syndicated loan of Japanese Yen 10 billion drawn in August, 1989.
- (ii) Suppliers Credit of Japanese Yen 15912.126 million drawn in Nov., 1993 (present outstanding amount is 11934.09 million).

ONGC propose to replace their earlier loans through fresh unguaranteed loans to save on interest and guaranteed charges.

#### Power Supply to Gujarat

1634. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the cost of power generation per unit by Atomic Power Stations of Tarapur and Kakrapar and at what rate same is supplied to Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : The unit Energy Cost of electricity from Tarapur Atomic Power Station is 63.31 paise/Kwh and from Kakrapar Atomic Power Station is 217.54 paise/Kwh as of June, 1996. The Gujarat State Electricity Board is also charged the same rates for supply of power from these power stations.

[Translation]

#### Fire Incident

1635. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of fire incidents in several petroleum/oil depots in the National Capital Territory of Delhi have taken place during the last three years;

(b) if so, the depot-wise details of the same for the last three years, till date;

(c) the total financial loss as a result thereof and the steps taken by the Government to stop the recurrence of such incidents causing the loss of life and property;

(d) whether any committee was set up to look into the same; and

(e) if so, the details of the conclusions submitted by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e). There were two fire incidents in the oil

installations in the National Capital Territory of Delhi during the last three years. There was a small fire at 10.00 hrs. on 23-12-1995 in the electric panel in the switch room of the IOC's Railway Siding at Shakurbasti. The fire was extinguished immediately by the IOC employees. There was no financial loss. The Chief Terminal Manager who investigated the incident concluded that the fire was caused by short circuit.

The second fire incident took place at around 07.27 hrs. on 30-5-96 at the tank wagon gantry at the IOC's LPG Bottling Plant at Tikrikalan. The fire was controlled within four minutes by the IOC employee on duty. There was no loss of life. One employees suffered 30% burn injuries and four others suffered minor injuries. The loss of property was worth Rs.8000/-.

[English]

#### Smuggling of Petroleum Products

1636. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether cases of smuggling of petroleum Products from Mahe in Union Territory of Pondicherry have been reported to the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof with preventive measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir. No cases of smuggling of petroleum products from Mahe in the Union Territory of Pondicherry have been reported to the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### LPG Gas Connection

1637. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of persons on the waiting list for LPG gas connection in Bareilly (U.P) and the time by which the waiting list is proposed to be cleared; and

(b) the year for which the persons on the waiting list are being given connection at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b). As on 1.4.1996, 39602 applicants from Bareilly (U.P.) were in the waiting list of distributors of Public Sector Oil Companies for LPG gas connection.

Efforts are constantly on to release LPG connections to as many applicants as early as possible. Plans have been drawn for higher availability of LPG by increasing the capacity of existing production sources, putting up new plants and augmenting supply through higher imports. New import facilities for LPG are under

construction at Kandla and Mangalore which are expected to be commissioned in October, 1996. With this, the availability of LPG shall be increased through enhanced imports. New bottling plants and more LPG distributorships are being opened by Government Oil Companies to cater to higher demand. The entire waiting list is expected to be cleared by 2001 A.D...

[English]

### Implementation of Projects

1638. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the pace of progress in the country has become very slow due to the delay in the implementation of different projects;

(b) if so, whether Government have felt the need to streamline the procedure in order to reduce the delay in clearing these projects; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Delay in the project implementation is one of the reasons which have been affecting the pace of progress in the economic development of the country.

(b) Government has taken certain steps to streamline the procedures to reduce the delay in implementation of projects.

(c) The details of the steps being taken to reduce delay in the implementation of projects is enclosed in the Statement.

### STATEMENT

*Steps taken by the Government to streamline for preparing the original estimates and implementation of Projects*

- (i) Two-stage project approval to ensure adequate preparation, environmental and other clearances and infrastructure planning at stage-I before a project is finally approved for implementation at stage-II.
- (ii) Intensive monitoring of projects at various levels. This enables the monitoring agencies to identify constraints and help the management in taking remedial measures.
- (iii) In-depth critical review of the progress by the project authorities and Administrative Ministries.
- (iv) Setting up of Task Force/Empowered Committees for speedy finalisation of contract

packages, solving land acquisition and other problems.

(v) close follow up by the Department of Programme Implementation, concerned administrative Ministries and project authorities with the State Government, equipment suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays.

(vi) Inter-ministrial coordination and interaction.

(vii) emphasis on preparation of realistic project implementation plan.

(viii) Review by the Committee of Secretaries of the specific project facing constraints.

### Solar Power Programme

1639. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to launch commercialisation of solar power programme in the country at a large scale; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b). A large scale Integrated Solar Combined Cycle (ISCC) Power Project is proposed to be set up in Rajasthan which will include a 35 MW Solar Thermal Power Plant. Global Environmental Facility (GEF) has accorded 'in principle' approval to provide grant assistance of US\$ 45 million towards the incremental cost of the solar power component. In response to a Request for Proposals (RFP) issued by the Government of Rajasthan, Letters of Intent (LOI) have been issued by the State Government to three companies for setting up of solar power projects of aggregate capacity 300 MW based on Build-Own-Operate-maintain (B-O-O-M) basis. Government of Uttar Pradesh has also invited offers for setting up of 5-50 MW Solar power project by private developers on Build-Own-Operate-Maintain (B-O-O-M) basis. Two partially grid connected Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) Power Plants of 100 KW capacity each have already been set up in Uttar Pradesh with financial support by the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources.

### Monsoon Trends

1640. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been invited to the news-item "Monsoon Plays Hide and Seek" appearing in the 'Economic Times', New Delhi, July 3, 1996; and