

Financing to Power Project by IDBI

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

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India has got a large number of power projects for financing during the fiscal year, 1997-98;

(b) whether proposals of about 32 power projects seeking assistance are pending with them;

(c) if so, the time by which the final decision to finance these power projects by IDBI will be taken; and

(d) the total amount required and the projects to be cleared during 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) 16 applications of power projects are pending with IDBI, at present.

(c) According to the IDBI these projects will be taken up for financing based on an appraisal by the financial institutions, which would inter alia take into account factors like techno-economic clearance from CEA, environmental clearance, fuel linkage and signing of a bankable Power Purchase Agreements with SEBs.

(d) During 1997-98, IDBI has approved 4 power projects with assistance sanctioned at Rs. 1550 crores.

Finance for Indo-Bangla Power Project

*140. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Asian Development Bank has agreed to finance Indo-Bangla Power exchange projects;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions thereof;

(c) the share of each country in these projects, project-wise; and

(d) the states likely to be benefited from such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The ADB, under its Regional Technical Assistance Programme, has agreed to finance a feasibility study for electricity exchange between India and Bangladesh.

(b) and (c) The feasibility study would, inter alia, identify the inter-tie points, quantum of power supply at each point, nature of power supply (i.e. base load, peak load or off-peak power), commercial arrangements based on international commercial practices for sale/

purchase of power between countries and other related technical issues.

(d) The project envisages export of surplus power from Eastern region of India to Western Bangladesh. The project also envisages export of surplus power from Eastern Bangladesh to the North Eastern region of India. Initially, this would be of benefit to States belonging to the Eastern and North Eastern regions of India and once all the links of the National Grid are complete, the benefit could extend to the country as a whole.

Import of Cables by Enron

1316. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have allowed the Enron to import cables for its projects; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor in the light of present recession in the domestic cable industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The Detailed Projected Report for the Dabhol power project (Ph-1) of M/s. Enron envisaged import of plant and equipment including power cables, which was techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in July, 1994 and the Concessional Customs Duty Certificate was issued by the CEA for the import against "Power Project Import" under Heading 98.01 of Indian Custom Tariff Act. The imports would be as per the Government policy relating to imports.

Rail Travel Concessions

1317. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of rail travel concessions granted during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of concessions granted to political leaders, social workers, able-bodied persons, handicapped and ill persons during the said period;

(c) whether the Government propose to issue any fresh guidelines for providing rail travel concessions to ill and handicapped persons and reducing the quota of able-bodied persons; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) As per rules contained in the Coaching Tariffs, concession in rail fares is admissible to 38 categories of persons like students, sportsmen,