

Tehri Dam Project

1872. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made with regard to the construction of the Tehri dam project; and

(b) the time by which the project is likely to be completed and the total expenditure incurred so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The progress made with regard to the construction of the Tehri dam Project is as under:

Four Head Race Tunnels (8.5 M dia each) and approach adits for Power house have been completed.

Four Diversion Tunnels (11 M dia each) have been completed and Bhagirathi river diverted for Tehri Dam works.

Foundation works for Coffers as well as for Main Dam have been completed.

Other infrastructure works like Stores, Office/Residential Buildings, Approach roads etc. have been completed.

(b) The project is likely to be completed by March, 1997 and the total expenditure incurred so far on the project is about Rs. 620 crores.

[*Translation*]

Emission of Coal Dust by Bokaro Thermal Power Plant

1873. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coal dust emitted by the Bokaro Thermal Power Station causes health hazards to the people residing in or around that area;

(b) whether people are facing many other difficulties and inconveniences as a result thereof;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken in the matter;

(d) whether the Government have taken steps for treatment of patients affected by the coal dust;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the number of persons affected by the coal dust during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) The coal dust emitted by the old units of Bokaro Thermal Power Station is negligible. The coal mines and coal washeries in the area contribute to coal dust pollution.

(c) The old units of Bokaro Thermal Power Station were installed more than 37 years back. Installation of electrostatic precipitators to limit the emissions from these units at this stage is not techno-economically viable. However, the existing dust collectors have been renovated to improve the position.

(d) Facilities are provided by the Government for the treatment of the patients suffering from respiratory diseases.

(e) and (f) Statistical information regarding the number of patients/persons affected by coal dust specifically is not maintained.

Supply of food stuffs in Shramjivi and Magadh Express

1874. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to supply polypacks of pure drinking water in Shramjivi Express