

is the meaning of this word 'sympathetic'?

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I shall have to give you a poetic interpretation.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Sir, I have a supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: Andaman is not in Calcutta!

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Every member of this House has a right to put a supplement Sir.

Gandhar Gas Based Power Project

*421. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Electricity Authority has given approval of 615 MW Gandhar Gas based power project with 2.25 mcmd requirement of gas; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to change it to 1.5 mcmd?

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). Two gas based projects of 615 MW each at Gandhar have been techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority, subject to certain conditions including confirmation of availability of 2.25 million cubic meters per day (MCMD) of gas for each of these two projects from the Gandhar gas fields. Currently both projects have a gas linkage of 1.5 MCMD each for operation on a variable load basis.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the hon. Minister the Central Electricity Authority has cleared two gas based projects of 615 MW capacity each at Gandhar with some conditions. Through you,

I would like to know from the hon. Minister the conditions put forth by the Central Electricity Authority while clearing the projects?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, after the presentation of the feasibility report by the State government, the Central Electricity Authority granted techno-economic clearance. Oil and Natural Gas Commission had promised to make available 2 million cubic meters of natural gas from the Gandhar gas fields. On that basis techno-economic clearance and environmental clearance was given before clearing the scheme finally and for the scheme the NTPC decided the allocation of funds to be made.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, secondly, for both the projects 1.5-1.5 M.C.M.D. gas leakage is available on the basis of operation on variable load principle, though the demand is of 2.25 million cubic metres per day. Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the date by which the demand of supply of 2.25 million cubic metres of gas per day is likely to be met.*

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, ONGC declared the availability of natural gas in abundance in Gandhar area but later on retracted from their earlier stand and said that actual availability is short of expectations. Therefore, on the basis of 1.5 million cubic metres of supply of gas to each project, clearances were issued to set up two projects of 615 MW capacity each by NTPC and Gujarat State Electricity Board respectively.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: My question is about the supply of precondition of 2.25 million cubic metres of gas to each project and whether the Government propose to fulfill the precondition? In case of non-fulfilling of precondition, whether the clearance to the projects will be given or not?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government is ready to fulfill the precondition, but ONGC gave an assurance to make available the natural gas but later on

expressed its inability to do so. Therefore the Central Government decided to consider the question of clearance of project on the basis of availability of 1.5 million cubic metres of gas to each project, on variable load factor.

SHRI RATILAL VARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, that the issue has been repeatedly raised in the House and also by the Gujarat Movement, but even then changes are being done in the scheme from time to time, further aggravating the power position in Gujarat. As a result adequate power is not being made available to farmers in Gujarat, further complicating the already worse drought situation prevailing in the State. May I know what is the time frame set by the Government and whether Government propose to meet at all the demand of Government of Gujarat for 2.25 M.C.M.D. gas?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the power crisis prevailing in Gujarat and whole of India is known to me and the Gandhar scheme was to be included in the eighth five year plan. This August House is well aware of the reasons for non formulation of the said scheme and the approach paper of the VIII five year plan, during the last two years. New Government in office has decided to take concrete steps to solve the power crisis and also to finalise the draft of VIII five year plan in 1992.

SHRI CHANDUBHAIDESHMUKH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, because of the Gandhar gas fields, in Bhroach district of Gujarat, crops

and foodgrains of hundreds of farmers have suffered extensive damages. In view of this, whether Government propose to pay compensation to the affected farmers or not?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, question of payment of compensation by the Government does not relate to the main question. For this prior notice is required.

[English]

Employment To Tehri Dam Project Oustees

*422. **SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI:** Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to give preference in employment in the Tehri Dam Project to the people of Tehri and Garhwal districts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a): Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC) has been following a policy of giving preference to local people of Tehri and Garhwal Districts in the matter of employment.

(b): The details are as under:-

Category	Total No. Recruited	Persons belonging to Tehri and other Districts of Garhwal
Non-Supervisory	651	448 (68.8%)
Supervisory	196	79 (40.3%)
Executives	261	35 (13.4%)
	1108*	562

* Excluding deputationists and Workcharge & Muster Roll employees taken over from U.P. Irrigation Department.