

[English]

**Bakreshwar Thermal Project**

556. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:  
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:  
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have received any new proposals from the Government of West Bengal regarding the financing of the Bakreshwar Thermal Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to complete the Bakreshwar Thermal Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). The Bakreshwar Thermal Project (3 X 210 MW) was posed for availing Soviet assistance on the request of the Government of West Bengal. The Government of West Bengal have recently proposed, that the project be delinked from Soviet assistance in view of prevailing situation in USSR and assistance from OECF be availed for the implementation of the Bakreshwar Project. In view of difficulties being experienced in securing fresh bilateral assistance for the power sector, the Government is keen to utilise Soviet assistance for the Bakreshwar Project as in the case of other power projects for which Soviet assistance is committed.

[Translation]

**Abduction of Diamond Merchants**

557. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :  
SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA:  
SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether four Bombay based diamond merchants were abducted in Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details of the incident;

(c) whether a huge amount was paid as ransom by the said merchants;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action being taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a). some Bombay based diamond merchants were abducted in Delhi recently.

(b) Six persons had been missing - one from 14-9-1991 and five from 15-9-1991. All these persons surfaced from 1561, Sukhdev Vihar, New Delhi on 3rd October, 1991.

(c) to (e). The Central Bureau of Investigation who have been entrusted with the investigation of the case have been reported that the case is at a crucial stage and disclosure of details would have an adverse impact on the investigation.