

(a) whether the Union Government propose to bring a legislation for monitoring and regularity the operations of Indian deep sea fishing facilities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the salient features of the proposed legislation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRIGIRIDHAR GOMANGO):

(a) and (b). Government is examining a proposal for a legislation for regulating and monitoring operations of Indian deep sea fishing vessels with a view to optimally exploit fishery resources in the Indian EEZ without endangering the marine environment. Proposal, inter alia, includes regulating the fishing seasons, fishing gears, type and number of fishing vessels, fishing areas, species, safety aparmetres, reports and returns, base ports.

[*Translation*]

Irregularities In Bld of Gandhar Power Project

4138. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI:
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:
SHR RAM VILAS PASWAN:

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

(a) whether the Government have received complaints with regard to the alleged irregularities in the auction organised for Gandhar Power Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been ordered in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). No auction was organised for the Gandhar Power Project of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Postal Materials in West Bengal

4139. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute scarcity of postal materials like Inland Letters, Post-Cards, Money Order Forms and Postal Orders in Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal particularly in Alipurduar Sub-division;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken for the smooth supply of postal materials in this region?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of answer to 'a' above, does not arise.

(c) The prescribed system for supply of postal materials which is being followed in the region is working smoothly.

[*Translation*]

Arrfars of NTPC Due to Bihar

4140. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bihar Government have to pay a very huge amount to the National Thermal Power Corporation;

(b) if so, the details of the outstanding amount for each of the last three years;

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government for payment of outstanding dues; and

(d) whether the NTPC supplies power to Bihar at higher rates; and

(e) if so, the reason thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir. Bihar State Electricity Board (BSEB) has to pay an amount of Rs. 253.71 crores plus a surcharge of Rs. 75.02 crores as on end February '92 for supply of power from NTPC stations.

(b) The amounts outstanding for the last three years are as under:—

<i>Outstanding Dues</i>	<i>Surcharge Billed (Rs. Crs.)</i>	<i>(Rs. Crs.)</i>
1.4.89	29.65	3.53
1.4.90	96.01	13.05
1.4.91	137.84	32.36
29.2.92	253.71	75.02

(c) The steps taken for recovery of dues include frequent visits to State Electricity Board and State Government by Senior executives of the NTPC, organising meetings, recovery through Central Appropriation, etc.

(d) No, Sir. For energy supply from Farakka power station of NTPC, the rate applicable to other States of Eastern Region is also being charged to Bihar. For power supply from Northern Region also, NTPC is billing as per the rates prevalent in Northern Region according to the global accounts prepared by Northern Region Electricity Board.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Hydro Electric Power Project in Karnataka

4141. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEER-APPA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Hydro-electric power generation projects in Bidar district in Karnataka to augment the power generation in the State;

(b) if so, the names of project pending for clearance; and

(c) the time by which these are exacted to be cleared?