

[Translation]

SHRIDAUDAYAL JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the honorable minister as to how much foreign exchange had to be spent by India on the import of steel during the last one year and from which countries steel was imported? Secondly, is this correct that in spite of making its best efforts India has not become self-reliant in the matter of steel. By exporting at a cheap rate to foreign countries we import steel in very huge quantity, when this practice will end. Please reply specifically.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The question relates to decontrol policy. If you want to reply, I have no objection.

SHRISONTOSH MOHANDEV: On this particular issue, the next question is there. He can be allowed to ask on that.

MR. SPEAKER: if you have the information, you can give it now.

SHRISONTOSH MOHANDEV: Sir, we require about 7 million tonnes of scrap in the country. Car availability is 3 million tonnes in the country..

Apart from that, sponge iron is also a substitute for scrap. 1.28 million tonnes is there. We import up to 3 million tonnes. Because the industry was suffering, the Government has reduced the customs duty from 35 per cent to 10 per cent. Now the industry is not facing that difficulty that they were facing. As an alternative, we are encouraging the sponge iron production. From 1.2 million tonnes, the production will ultimately go up to 5 million tonnes because some new gas-based and coal-based sponge iron plants are coming up in the country and they will start production within the two or three years.

SHRI E. AHAMED: There was a freight equalisation scheme which was very helpful to the Southern States. After the abolition of this freight equalisation scheme, the industry in Southern States such as Tamil Nadu and

Kerala is finding it extremely difficult to meet the requirements because of the unjustifiable and unreasonable hike in the price of steel material. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will consider this aspect and give some protection to the tiny steel industries in the Southern States to meet this unreasonable hike in the price of steel.

SHRISONTOSH MOHANDEV: Freight equalisation, as such, has been abolished. But keeping in view what the hon. Member has stated the Government has decided that for those States which are producing steel, actual freight will be charged in those areas, southern and Western States which were getting the privilege of paying less, will now be charged freight of Rs. 1080 per tonne for steel and Rs. 730 per tonne for pig iron or the actual freight whichever is less. In other words, at the moment, the integrated steel plants are contributing about Rs. 100 crores on this account. So, it is not a fact that the consumers in the Western and Southern and also the Northern States are being deprived of their benefit. The Government is giving freight protection to them. The Eastern Sector used to contribute about Rs. 88 crore per month as additional freight. They are actually paying actual freight which is less than Rs. 1080 per tonne. It is not a fact that the Southern and Western States are not getting the benefit. I have already informed the concerned Chief Ministers and they are satisfied. This sort of confusion should not be there.

Gas-Based Power Projects

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*669. KUMARI PADMASREE
KUDUMULA:
SHRI GANGADHARA
SANIPALLI:

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

(a) the details of the proposals received by the Union Government from various States for setting up of gas-based power projects which are pending at present, State-wise;

(b) the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared; and

(c) the projects which are proposed to be set up during the Eighth Five year Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES(SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). The details of the Schemes received from various States for setting up of Gas-based power projects awaiting techno-

economic clearance of the Central Electricity Authority are at Annexure-I. These Schemes can be considered for techno-economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority after all the essential inputs like gas linkage, water availability associated transmission system, compliance of Section 29 of Electricity (supply) Act, 1948 etc. are tied up and necessary clearances including clearance of the Central as well as the State Authorities from environmental angle have been obtained by the concerned Project Authorities.

(c) The State-wise details of the Gas-based Projects which are envisaged for installation during the 8th Plan period (1992-97) in the State Sector are at Annexure-II.

ANNEXURE-I

State-wise details of schemes under examination in the Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Scheme/State</i>	<i>Capacity (MW)</i>
GUJARAT		
1.	Pipavav CCGT South Saurashtra Distt.	615
2.	Utran CCGT Stage-II, Distt, Surat	135
3.	Wenakbori CCGT	600
MADHYA PRADESH		
4.	Gwalior CCGT Distt. Gwalior	817
MAHARASHTRA		
5.	Dabhol CCGT Distt. Ratnagiri	760
6.	Nagothane CCGT, Distt, Raigad	820
TAMIL NADU		
7.	Pillai Perumalnallur Stage-II Distt. Thanjavour	300
ASSAM		
8.	Namrup CCGT Distt. Namrup	60

ANNEXURE-II

State-wise details of Gas based power projects, sanctioned and Techno-economically cleared by Central Electricity Authority Envisaging benefits during the Eighth Plan period (1992-97).

S.No.	Name of the Scheme/State	Capacity (MW)
SANOTIONED PROJECTS:		
DELHI:		
1.	Weste Heat Recovery Unit	3x34
RAJASTHAN:		
2.	Ramgarh GT Station	1x3
JAMMU & KASHMIR:		
3.	Pampore GT Stage-II	4x25
GUJARAT:		
4.	Utran CCGT stage II, Surat	GT - 3x33 ST - 1x45
MAHARASHTRA:		
5.	Uran Waste Heat Recovery Units	3x120
TAMIL NADU:		
6.	Basin Bridge GT	4x30
PONDICHERRY:		
7.	Karaikal CCGT	GT - 3X5 ST - 1X7.5
ASSAM:		
8.	Lakwa GT Phase-II, Distt. Sibsagar	3x20
9.	Lakwa Waste Heat Recovery Unit	1x22
10.	Amguri CCGT, Distt. Sibsagar	8x30 4x30
Total Capacity		1293.5 NW

Thchno-Economically cleared Projects - Awaiting sanction of Government

S.No.	Name of the Scheme/State	Capacity (MW)
DELHI:		
1.	Bawana	800
GUJARAT:		
2.	Gandhar CCGT, Distt. Bharuch	615
ANDHRA PRADESH:		
3.	Jegurupadu CCGT, East Godavari Distt.	400
TAMIL NADU:		
4.	Pillai Perumal-nallur CCGT St. I, Distt. Thanjavour	300
TRIPURA:		
5.	Rokhia GT Phase-II, Distt. West Tripura	2x8
6.	Rokhia GT Phase-III, Distt. West Tripura	2x8

KUMARI PADAMASREE KUDUMULA: Mr. speaker sir, through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government have any proposal to invite the private sector or foreign investors for setting up of gas-based power projects.

SHRI KALPNATHRAI: Mr. Speaker sir, the hon. Member has asked a question as to how many projects are state-sponsored ones. I have already submitted that a statement has been laid on the Table of the House. Sir, gas is available in the country. But as you know, we do not have the money. For getting the required funds, we are taking Central assistance and the World Bank assistance so that the gas-based power projects can be completed and power problem can be solved.

KUMARI PADAMASREE KUDUMULA: Sir, I would like to know the quantity of gas allotted for the proposed power projects and quantity of gas flared up every year.

SHRI KALPNATHRAI: Mr. Speaker sir, gas-based power projects can be completed at the earliest because the gestation period is short. When the Petroleum Ministry gives

a guarantee that gas will be made available for a given project, then only the Central electricity Authority gives the clearance. The matter comes up for clearance to the PIB only when the environmental clearance, clearance from the Planning Commission and the techno-economic clearance are available.

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the hon'ble minister State life the gas allocation has been made for utran in Surat. An amount of Rs. 150 crore has been invested in this project and the Gas Authority of India or whosoever it may be had given an assurance to provide gas. I would like to ask whether it has been fulfilled or not. If not, then who will be responsible for completion of such a big project in which such a big amount of Rs. 150 crores has been invested and the time by which the Gas Authority of India will supply gas? This has been ready for a year or so. When are you going to produce electricity from gas?

SHRI KALPNATHRAI: I agree with the hon. Member; the Ministry of energy approves the plan and then the techno-economic clearance is given because the petro-

leum Ministry gives guarantee that it will supply gas to this project. After that the Planning Commission gives its acceptance. At the instance of the Petroleum Ministry we have approved this plan, we also share your concern which you have expressed. We have written letters to the Petroleum Ministry and to the Prime Minister regarding the requirement of gas in Gujarat and this project at itran is ready and it has been constructed at the request of the Petroleum Ministry; that is why that Ministry should accord its approval and make immediate arrangements for providing gas. The Petroleum Ministry has stated that they are making arrangements for providing gas as early as possible.

[English]

SHRI P.C. CHACKO: Sir, the hon. Minister in his statement has given the gas-based power projects being cleared for implementation for the 8th Plan period. Unfortunately, in the list annexed to the answer two power projects in Kerala, Brahmapuram at Ernakulam and Kasargode at Trivendrum, which have recently been cleared for implementation for the 8th Plan period are being omitted. Will the hon. Minister give the assurance that these two projects which have already been cleared by the Central Government for implementation in Kerala will be implemented in the 8th Plan? I would also like to know when will the gas linkage be finalised.

SHRI KALPNATHRAI: the Kerala sponsored gas-based projects are under consideration of the Central Electricity Authority. When the techno-economic clearance will be available and when the Planning Commission gives clearance then this question regarding the financial tie up will come. The Government will consider these projects the moment all these clearance are available.

Pending Irrigation Projects

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*665. SHRI NARAIN SINGH
CHAUDHRI:
SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH
HOODA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of irrigation projects proposed by the various State Governments, particularly by Haryana, Karnataka, Assam, Maharashtra and Kerala, pending for clearance with the Union Government;

(b) since when these are pending along with the reasons thereof;

(c) the number of projects which have been cleared out of them along with the allocation made for each project; and

(d) the time by which the remaining projects are likely to be cleared?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rasera): Where is the Minister, Sir?

The concerned Minister is not present.

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Sir, this is highly objectionable. Somebody should take the responsibility for this. Government cannot function like this.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: The Government has failed. (Interruptions) this is a very serious matter. You had stated in this very house, that a lot of expenditure is incurred on each question. (Interruptions).

A lot of money of the country is being spent and the Government is irresponsible.

[English]

The Government has no moral right to continue.

[Translation]

The Government should immediately be dismissed.

(Interruptions)