GOVERNMENT OF INDIA POWER LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2298 ANSWERED ON:06.08.2010 BOTTLENECKS IN POWER GENERATION Panda Shri Baijayant;Pradhan Shri Nityananda

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken certain policy initiatives to ease the bottlenecks in the areas like equipment supply, domestic coal supply and timely regulatory approval for power projects for increasing power generation in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the shortage of skilled manpower in the power sector has become a serious bottleneck to keep pace with development of additional power generation capacity in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action plan of the Government to tackle the manpower shortage to achieve the targets of additional power generation capacity, especially with reference to under-developed regions of the country including Orissa, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and North-Eastern region?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI)

(a) & (b): With the enactment of The Electricity Act, 2003, concurrence of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is not required for setting up of new Thermal Power Projects. However, concurrence of CEA is required for setting up of Hydro Projects estimated to involve capital expenditure exceeding such sum as may be fixed from time to time, by notification by the Central Government. According to the guidelines, in case the Hydro Electric Scheme is found to be technically acceptable with necessary inputs to be furnished by the developers, the Authority shall accord concurrence for implementation of the hydro electric scheme, as far as practicable within a period of 90 (ninety) working days from the date of submission of DPR complete in all respects.

Government has taken several steps to enhance manufacturing capacity of power equipment. These include augmentation of BHEL manufacturing capacity to deliver 20,000 MW of power equipment per annum by March 2012 depending upon market conditions and formation of several joint ventures to manufacture supercritical boilers and turbine-generators in the country.

Government has also taken several steps to ease the availability of coal for the power plants in the country. These include signing of Fuel Supply Agreement under the New Coal Distribution Policy with Annual Contracted Quantity, providing coal linkages and coal blocks to the power generation projects targeted for commissioning during the 11th Plan, import of coal to bridge the gap between requirement of coal and its availability from the domestic sources.

(c) to (e): To increase the pool of skilled personnel the government had launched the `Adopt an ITI` scheme in 2007. So far CPSUs have adopted 57, State PSUs 3 and Private power developers 12 ITIs. Details of ITIs adopted in the States of Orissa, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and North-Eastern Region is enclosed at Annex.