

Purchase of Power from Pakistan

1771. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:
SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for the import of power from Pakistan has reached deadlock, as reported in the news-item captioned "Power deal with Pakistan stuck on price issue" appearing in *The Times of India* dated February 1, 1999;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to remove this deadlock;

(d) whether Government propose to import power from countries other than the Pakistan;

(e) if so, the details therefor; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make India self-reliant in power generation?

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Two rounds of discussions have already been held between the two countries. Next round of discussion is likely to be held in March/April, 1999.

(d) and (e) Bilateral arrangement/agreement already exists for exchange of Power between India and Nepal, and India and Bhutan. The Government of India and Bangladesh have agreed to prepare a joint feasibility report for inter-connection of power systems between Bangladesh and India for exchange of power between the two countries.

(f) Draft Ninth Plan envisages capacity addition programme of about 40000 MW during 9th Plan period.

The following steps are also being taken in order to bridge the gap between supply and demand:—

- Maximisation of generation in existing power plants by Renovation & Modernisation.

- Reduction in Transmission & Distribution losses.

- Coordinated operation of Hydro, Thermal, Nuclear and Gas Turbine Power stations.

- Promotion of inter-state/inter-regional power transfers.

- Augmentation of generating capacity.

- Augmentation of transmission and transformation capability in the power system.

- Institutional reforms in the power sector.

- Setting up of mega projects.

- Demand side management.

- Conservation of energy.

Expansion of Talcher Thermal Power Plant

1772. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:
SHRI SURESH WARPODKAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a team of high level National Thermal Power Corporation officials recently visited Washington to retrieve the World Bank loan with US\$ 2 billion for the expansion of Talcher Thermal Power Plant in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the details of the terms and conditions laid down by the World Bank for the said loan; and

(d) the amount of World Bank assistance being received for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (d) No, Sir. No official team of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has visited the Head Quarters of the World Bank recently for loan negotiations for Talcher-II expansion. The NTPC has posed the project for funding by the World Bank. There has been no commitment from the Bank regarding this project so far.