

(a) whether captive power plants are being set up in industrial units and also in industrial belts so that power shortage is met and industrial production is not hampered; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Permission to instal captive power plants is accorded where the requirement of power is substantial and continuous and reliable power supply is necessary. The State Electricity Boards are empowered to accord such permission if the capacity is upto 25 MW; consultation with the Central Electricity Authority is necessary in case where the proposed capacity is more than 25 MW.

Capacity Utilisation of Power Plants

8824. **SHRI ERA ANBARASU · SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:**

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the average capacity utilisation of power plants in the public sector vis-a-vis in the private sector; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the capacity utilisation of power plants?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) During 1989-90, the average capacity utilisation of thermal stations in Public Sector and Private Sector was 55.7% and 69.5% respectively.

(b) Various measures being taken to further improve the capacity utilisation of

thermal stations include implementation of the centrally Sponsored Renovation and Modernisation Programme, assistance to State Electricity Boards in undertaking Plant Betterment Programmes as well as in the procurement of spare parts, supply of requisite quality and quantity of coal, training of personnel etc.,

Rail Line between Digha and Jaleswar

8825. **SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend the railway line from Digha station at Digha beach in West Bengal via Chandaneswar in Orissa and to connect it to Jaleswar station on Howrah-Madras line; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Regularisation of Group 'D' Workers

8826. **SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in response to the advertisement by the Signal and Tele-Communication Department of Jamshedpur to recruit Group 'D' workers on daily wages, had applied upto 2 November, 1989;

(b) if so, the total number of such applications and the present position in regard to their processing etc.,

(c) whether the same unit is already employing a number of labourers on casual basis for the last one to twenty six years;