

(a) whether Government are evolving measures to arrange a one-time clearance at one point for power projects on matters like forest and environmental clearance and fuel linkages; and

(b) if so, the directions issued by Union Government in this regard to the Central Electricity Authority, National Thermal Power Corporation and National Hydro-electric Power Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY, (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) :

(a) and (b) A suggestion was made at the State Power Ministers' Conference held in January, 1987, that there should be a single window clearance for proposals to set up power projects. The proposals for Power Projects are not susceptible to one window clearance in view of the fact that state as well as Central Government agencies are involved and in the absence of commonality in the aspects from which the required clearances, under various statutes, have to be given.

Transmission Lines in Eastern Sector

*96. DR. A.K. PATEL :

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY ; Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the particulars of places in the Eastern Sector where power stations have started generation and there are no transmission lines ;

(b) the reasons for not installing the transmission lines so far ; and

(c) the remedial steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY, (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) :

(a) to (c) The transmission lines associated with various power projects in the Eastern Sector are being implemented concomitantly with the generating units, with the exception of 400 KV substation at Bidhannagar associated with Farakka Super

Thermal Station and 220 KV Hazipur—Fatwa line associated with Muzaffarpur Thermal Station, which have been considerably delayed due to various reasons. These works are being executed by West Bengal and Bihar State Electricity Boards respectively.

The State Governments have been advised to closely monitor and supervise the implementation of these projects. The Central Electricity Authority has also been asked to send teams to these projects with a view to identify the implementation constraints and render advice to the State Electricity Boards concerned.

Retail Prices of Cement

*97. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether recent policies of relaxation in retail prices of cement have failed to increase production significantly and led to ever increasing demands by the manufacturers;

(b) the retail price of cement before price controls were removed and the present price; and

(c) the corresponding free on board prices of cement being imported now ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) The Government have not taken any policy decision in regard to relaxation in retail prices of cement. However, Government have decided to increase the retention price for levy cement to extent of Rs. 24.50 per tonne without increasing sale price to the consumers and reduce the levy quota of all cement units by 10% with effect from 15th December, 1986, to enable the cement manufacturers to meet the increase in cost of production of cement. Cement production is showing continuous increase during the last few years.

(b) The Control price of Cement, including packing charges and excise duty, immediately before the introduction of partial

de-control of cement on 28.2.82 was Rs. 540.19 per tonne. As against this, the current price of levy cement, including the excise duty and packing charges, is Rs. 353.99 per tonne. However, the retail price, inclusive of central sales tax, local sales tax and other levies differ from state to state.

The retail price for non-levy cement varies from area to area and the Cement Manufacturers' Association has fixed the following upper ceiling for non-levy cement :—

Kerala, Maharashtra Jammu & Kashmir and North Eastern States	Rs. 69 per bag or Rs. 1380 per tonne.
Other States/ Union Territories	Rs. 64 per bag or Rs. 1280 per tonne.

The above prices are inclusive of Central sales tax, stockists margin and local transport cost upto 20 Kms. from the destination rail head but excludes local sales tax and other local levies applicable in different States/areas.

(c) It has been decided by Government not to import any cement during the current year i.e. 1986-87. The F.O.B. price per tonne at which contracts were concluded during 1985-86 stood at US \$ 25.50 from rupee payment areas. The F.O.B. price from free currency area was US \$ 28 per metric tonne and the purchase contracts from such areas were finalised by S.T.C. against counter trade basis.

New Arrangements for Supply of Coal by Coal India Limited

*98. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Limited has decided to stop direct supplies of coal to industries which require less than 120 wagons a year;

(b) if so, the details of the new arrangements made for the supply of coal: and

(c) the reasons for change in policy ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c) In order to ensure timely, easy and regular supplies of coal to the small consumers, Coal India Limited have decided to link all consumers having a requirement upto 120 tonnes a month with Coal India stockyards on a permanent basis and delink them from the collieries. This has been done on the basis of the recommendations of an Expert Committee headed by SHRI J. G. Kumaramangalam, former Chairman of Coal Mines Authority Limited.

Conference of Chairman of State Electricity Boards

*99. SHRI S. M. GURADDI :

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Conference of Chairman of State Electricity Boards was held in December, 1986;

(b) if so, the main topics discussed at the Conference; and

(c) the outcome of the deliberations at the Conference and whether any time bound programme has been prepared for achieving self-sufficiency in power during Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY, (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The measures necessary for achieving self-sufficiency in power supply include expediting commissioning of on-going projects, better utilisation of existing capacity, implementation of short gestation projects, reduction in transmission and distribution losses, and demand management and energy conservation. The main topics discussed at the Conference related to these issues and included implementation of the power generation and project commissioning programmes, review of the renovation and modernisation scheme for thermal stations, supply of coal to thermal plants, and measures for reduction in transmission and