

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : My question is about the anomaly in the design parameters. I want to know how they can be removed so that they can complete the project before time though the cost escalation is 25 per cent.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We are thankful for the enlightenment.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Sir, I have asked the question, since there are so many anomalies...

MR. SPEAKER : He stands enlightened.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will our dynamic Minister, Shri Vasant Sathe enlighten me on this subject and whether he will enumerate the anomalies ?

MR. SPEAKER : Please leave the poor question now.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : I want to know categorically from the hon. Minister, though there are escalation costs of 25 per cent, will his Ministry contract with the indigenous firms and also with the international firms so that our project and our installed capacity target is achieved in time ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : All this will be done.

SHRI BHAGWANT JHA AZAD : The two thermal power stations at Farakka and Kahalgaon are to be catered to by the Rajmahal Coal Project at Lalmatia. One is nearing completion and the other is starting its construction at Kahalgaon. May I know whether the NTPC has expressed its apprehension that the Lalmatia project, which has to supply 20 million tonnes at the full capacity level to the thermal power stations will not be able to do it ? If that is so, what is the proposal before the Government to make Lalmatia viable to supply both to Kahalgaon and Farakka stations ?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : I do not have any information whether the NTPC has expressed apprehension that Lalmatia will not be able to supply coal to these stations. But when we have taken a decision to set up a super thermal power station there, here I may state that this

decision is also always taken in consultation with the Coal Department and the Planning Commission and that is done only after having tied up the coal linkage. After making all this investment in Kahalgaon, which we have already started, there is no question of coal not being supplied from Lalmatia to Kahalgaon.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : But it is a question of time to work out. My question is whether it would be possible to have them from the mines.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Well, we will examine that question.

Delay in Completion of Hydrel Power Projects

*128. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the hydrel power projects in the country which are delayed by over five years or more for completion and causing huge losses towards cost of construction, etc. and execution showing (i) the name of the project and the State where located, (ii) the original estimated cost and the expected cost on completion and (iii) the period of delay;

(b) the reasons for delay; and

(c) the steps taken to overcome the above factors and the results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) A statement showing the hydrel projects due for commissioning in the Seventh Plan period, which have been delayed by over five years, is given below.

(b) The main reasons of delay in completion of the projects relate to difficulties in land acquisition, change in the scope of the projects, delay in supply and non-sequential supply of equipment, paucity of funds, shortages of construction materials, labour problems, unexpected geological conditions encountered at the sites and design and engineering problems.

(c) The projects in the implementation of which there have been delays are, by and large, in the State Sector. The States have been advised to strengthen their project management organisations, employ modern monitoring techniques, intensify inspections, and ensure the timely availability of various inputs. In addition, expert teams of the Central Electricity Authority periodically visit the projects and assist in the identification and overcoming of constraints in implementation.

Statement

Details of hydro-electric projects likely to be commissioned during the Seventh Plan which are delayed by over five years or more

Name of the Project and Capacity (MW)	Original Estimated Cost <u>Latest Estimated Cost (Rs. Crores)</u>	Original commissioning Schedule	Likely Commissioning Schedule
1	2	3	4
CENTRAL SECTOR			
1. Salal (3 × 115)	<u>55.15</u> 567.35	1974-75	1986-87
STATE SECTOR			
<i>Northern Region</i>			
Himachal Pradesh			
1. Andra (3 × 5.65)	<u>9.74</u> 30.00	1980-81	1986-87
2. Rongtong (4 × 0.5)	<u>2.81</u> 13.94	1980-81	1986-87
WESTERN REGION			
Gujarat			
1. Ukai LBC (2 × 2.5)	<u>3.05</u> 4.24	1979-80 1980-81	1986-87
2. Kadana PSS (2 × 60)	<u>24.58</u> 86.57	1978-79	1987-88 1988-89
Maharashtra			
1. Tillari (1 × 60)	<u>8.16</u> 58.48	1977-78	1985-86
Common (M.P./Maharashtra)			
1. Pench (2 × 80)	<u>28.28</u> 144.91	1978-79	1985-86 1986-87
SOUTHERN REGION			
Kerala			
1. Idamalayar (2 × 37.5)	<u>23.40</u> 88.97	1978-79	1985-86

1	2	3	4
Tamil Nadu			
1. Servalar (1 × 20)	<u>8.35</u> 30.43	1978-79	1985-86
2. Kadamparai PSS (4 × 100)	<u>35.12</u> 155.44	1978-79	1986-87 (100) 1987-88 (200) 1988-89 (100)
3. Lower Mettur (4 × 2 × 15)	<u>83.60</u> 147.00	1981-82	1986-87 (45) 1987-88 (60) 1988-87 (15)
EASTERN REGION			
Orissa			
1. Upper Kolab (3 × 80)	<u>51.39</u> 168.03	1980-81	1986-87 (80) 1987-88 (80) 1988-89 (80)
West Bengal			
1. Ramman St. II (4 × 12.5)	<u>24.20</u> 55.16	1982-83	1988-89 (25) 1989-90 (25)

[Translation]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw your attention towards two or three projects. Salal Project, which is in the Central Sector...

MR. SPEAKER : You put your question.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Its original cost was Rs. 55.15 crores and the latest estimated cost as shown by you is Rs. 567.35 crores. Is it a misprint or is this figure correct? Earlier, it was a project involving an estimated cost of Rs. 55.15 crores, but now its estimated cost has risen to Rs. 567.35 crores. Has this figure of '5' been panted through oversight or is this figure absolutely correct?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : This is absolutely correct.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Likewise, you can see that original cost in respect of Rongtong Project was Rs. 2.81 crores which has now risen to Rs. 13.94 crores.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Ask a question. Please do not read it.

[Translation]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I am only putting the question. The cost of Salal Project has risen to Rs. 567 crores from Rs. 55 crores. Thus, it has increased by ten times. Therefore, will you please tell me when this scheme was approved, when did the work start and which were the items whose prices had risen since the work commenced? Please indicate item-wise rise in cost, as for example on labour, machinery, technical knowhow, geological survey etc. Please give component-wise break-up of this 5 to 10 times increase in the cost.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : The question is quite long enough!

[Translation]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Sir, the concern expressed by the hon. Member Shri Dagaji is but natural and it was expected too because the figures given are correct. The revised cost of the Salal Project has risen manifold as compared to the original Estimates. This project was started by the Government of Jammu and

Kashmir in 1968; it was transferred to the Central Government in 1970 and thereafter National Hydro Power Corporation was set up in 1976. Sir, the figures of the project conceived originally in 1968 were not realistic. It was due to this reason that it was revised. This was a project drawn up by the State Government and it cannot be said from the technical angle that all the factors were duly taken into account.

This project was handed over to N.H.P.C. in 1976. It was then drawn up afresh. The geological problems which confronted the execution of the project were rather serious. Thus, it can be said that this is the only project of its kind in the entire world. For example, there was no provision of a tunnel in it.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : The answer proved to be longer !

MR. SPEAKER : Longer than the project !

[Translation]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : A 2.4 km. long tunnel has been constructed. The site of the power house has been shifted. A number of serious problems cropped up in the execution of this project leading to so much delay.

The hon. Member has also asked about other projects. Most of them are projects of the State Governments. They send their projects to the Central Electricity Authority to get clearance and after the projects are cleared they are unable to include these projects in their plans due to paucity of funds. If at all they manage to include them in their plans, they are unable to commence work on these projects or fail to keep up the schedule due to lack of resources. It is mainly because of lack of resources that the projects of the State Governments run behind schedule.

[English]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Sir, has he answered my questions ? What question I have raised ? They are—

[Translation]

When was this project...

MR. SPEAKER : If all the Members would start asking like this...

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I want your protection.

MR. SPEAKER : I have given you protection. You are overriding, and wasting the time unnecessarily.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : Sir, I beg to state this. Kindly see, in the answer itself the dates were given. In 1968 it was prepared, in 1970 it was approved.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : What was the date of approval ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : It was prepared in 1968 and in 1970 it was approved. Then it was transferred to the NHPC. What more dates do you want ?

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : You have given the dates of commissioning. I am asked the date of approval.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : I shall intimate the exact dates to the hon. Member.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I am only asking that you...

MR. SPEAKER : You just go on clinging to one question. How can we proceed if you go on asking for statistics like that ? You cannot do like that, there are other questions to be covered.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : All right. Here is my second supplementary. Will you kindly state the amount of loss suffered by us on the investment made in the plan projects which continue to linger on for ten to fifteen years ? You please tell us the economic loss of any one of these projects,

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Sir, it is very difficult to quantify the loss like that. But we had been doing a constant review in this regard. An appraisal is done both at the time of formulation of the Five Year Plan as also at the mid-term. At that time, this is kept in mind as to how many projects would start yielding benefits during that very five year plan; how many projects are such which can make headway. I have explained in detail in my reply about the projects included in the Seventh Five Year Plan. If you want, we shall get a specific study conducted in this regard.

[English]

SHRI LAL DUHOMA : Sir, there is an inordinately delayed hydel project know as Bairabi hydel project in Mizoram. It is a small project the national standard, but it is the biggest, the first and the only project of its kind for the region. The feasibility report has been given several years back. I have given a Question last time and it was replied that it was being scrutinised. It is being scrutinised for several years now. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, how long this "under scrutiny attitude" of the Government will continue ?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : This question does not relate to those projects which have not been given final clearance. In this project, may be some delay has taken place. But the proposal which has come from the State Government has to be examined not only from the angle of techno-economic feasibility but also from the angle of environment, forest etc. It may be that the C.A. has sent queries to the State Government and the department concerned. As soon as their comments are received, the project will be cleared.

SHRI T. BASHER : There are certain inter-State water disputes outstanding unresolved for long years.

MR. SPEAKER : I don't think, this is relevant to the Question. It is not pertaining to this Question.

SHRI A. CHARLES : Sir, the Idamalayar Hydel project in Kerala is comparatively a small project. Originally, it was proposed to be commissioned in 1978-

79. Now, the proposed date is 1985-86. Since the year 1985-86 is almost coming to a close, may I know from the Minister whether considerable progress has been made in the commissioning of this project and will the Minister ensure that it will be commissioned before the end of 1985-86 ?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Sir, we hold periodic meeting with the State Governments to monitor the progress of the implementation of these projects. I have given the date for this project in my answer as 1985-86. Naturally, substantial progress has been made and in the review meeting, no change in the date has been pointed out. So, I hope that the project will be completed as per the scheduled date.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : From the Statement given in the answer, it appears that from 1974 onwards, the construction of the projects is being delayed on account of several things. Has the Government examined how much agricultural production and industrial production are affected because of this delay ? Where there is delay or obstruction in commissioning of these projects and in view of the shortage of power supply, will the Government consider alternative methods, i.e. where the State Government has submitted its plans and schemes for the new projects, those projects should be given sanction on priority, for supply of power to those areas ? Idamalayar Hydel project is one example of such projects which are not commissioned due to various reasons. Kerala which is having surplus electricity is going to have deficit in electricity in this year because this is not commissioned and no new plans have been given. Will the Government consider this question ?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : To meet the energy requirements of the State is the responsibility of the concerned State Government. But we supplement their efforts. All these thermal power stations which have been set up by the National Thermal Power Corporation are supplying electricity to the States in the respective region. While planning, the emphasis is on meeting the energy requirement. The requirement is met not only from the hydel generation but also from thermal generation, Nuclear power

stations are also coming. There is a lot of stress on non-conventional energy sources.

So, an integrated view has to be taken and the overall requirement of electricity is being met.

[Translation]

Regional and National Grids

*129. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of regional and national grids, State-wise;

(b) whether Government are paying special attention towards speedy establishment and operation of regional and national grids; and

(c) if so, since when and the result thereof ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) There are five regional grids, namely Northern, Western, Southern, Eastern and North-Eastern comprising the power system of the different States, Union Territories and other power utilities of the regions. These regional grids would ultimately form a National Grid.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The setting up of Regional Load Despatch Centres was taken up in the Seventies. As a result of various measures taken, the Northern, Western and North-Eastern Regional Grids are operating in an integrated manner. Southern and Eastern Grids are partially working. During 1984-85 the regional grid operations helped in the transfer of power from one State to the other.

[Translation]

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my first question was as to

what was the number of regional and national grids, State-wise. In reply to this, the hon. Minister has stated that there are five regional grids—Northern, Western, Southern, Eastern and North-Eastern, comprising the power systems of the different States, Union Territories and other power utilities of the regions and that these regional grids would ultimately form a national grid. I did not ask about the formation of the national grid. What I had asked was the number of regional and national grids, State-wise. No reply to this has been given. I would like to know the State-wise details in this regard.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : When these regional grids will be finally ready and will start functioning, they will themselves form national grid, the moment they start operating in an integrated manner. There is no proposal to set up a national grid separately.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : I want to know that, as is clear from the reply given by the hon. Minister, there is no proposal to set up national grid separately... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Clear or not clear ?

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : It is clear. Bihar figures nowhere in the matter of setting up of regional grids and their operation. Bihar has been ignored due to which regional grids in sufficient number have not been set up even districtwise. The functioning of old grids is urban-oriented whereas it should be rural-oriented with a view to facilitating the development of those living below the poverty line.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Bihar falls in the Eastern Grid. A super thermal power station is being set up there by the National Thermal Power Corporation and, therefore, there is no question of ignoring Bihar. Bihar is included not only in the Eastern Grid but it is also linked with Uttar Pradesh. Sometimes, it so happens... (Interruptions) I am only speaking about electricity, nothing else. If Bihar needs electricity and U.P. has surplus, it can be