

[English]

Power shortage in Orissa and implementation of Talcher Super Thermal Power Project

*168 SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of acute shortage of power in Orissa ;

(b) if so, the steps taken to meet the present and future requirements of the State ; and

(c) how far the National Thermal Power Corporation has initiated action for early implementation of Talcher Super Thermal Power Project which will relieve the State from power shortage ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (c). A statement is given below :

Statement

(a) and (b). There is a power shortage in Orissa. The measures taken to increase the availability of power in the State include installation of additional generation capacity, renovation and modernisation of the Talcher thermal power station, reduction in transmission and distribution losses, implementation of demand management and energy conservation measures, and providing assistance from the neighbouring systems to the extent possible.

(c) The Central Electricity Authority have accorded techno-economic approval to the Talcher super thermal power project. The project can be considered for an investment decision after environment and forest clearance has been accorded, coal linkage has been established, and the funding pattern has been determined.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Sir, there is poverty in the midst of plenty in Orissa and the hon. Minister knows it very well. Best quality coal is available in Orisa in plenty as nature is kind enough to Orissa.

There is much scope for hydro-electricity and there are reserves of monazite for establishing a nuclear power plant there. In spite of these facts the fact remains that power generation in Orissa is only 727 Megawatts as against the requirement of 1205 Megawatts.

The hon. Minister in her answer has not given any answer to my question but the answer given is as vague as it can be. I want to know from the hon. Minister when the Talcher super thermal power project is going to start ; and is there any time-bound programme ?

Similarly, there is a growing need in Orissa for a thermal project. When is the Government going to start that project ? And, what steps are going to be taken ?

Thirdly, as I have stated, if a nuclear project is established it will serve not only the State of Orissa, but also the other power-starved neighbouring States. So, what are the steps that the Government is going to take ? They may be clearly defined, not in vague terms as in the answer.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : I will try to make the answer as specific as possible and not general and vague.

It is true that Orissa is having power shortage and the present installed capacity is only 1185 Megawatts and besides it has also got a share of 25 Megawatts from the first unit of Talcher super thermal power station. But the inflow into the reservoirs of Hirakud, Balimela and the performance of the Talcher power station, has not been satisfactory. As the inflow into these reservoirs was not satisfactory, there has been a shortage of power to the extent of 15 to 20 percent in the State of Orissa. The power requirement of Orissa is expected to be 6750MU against which there is not enough availability. The shortage is about 30 per cent. In order to meet the power shortage the State has imposed power cuts also. At the same time, many other States are trying to come to the assistance of Orissa in order to see that Orissa does not face power shortage. From Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and also from DVC some power has been rushed to the succour of Orissa. At the same time,

I would like to say that there is a big generation programme for 1986-87. Additional generation capacity totalling 483.5 MW is expected to be commissioned in Orissa during the Seventh Five Year Plan. Recently we had a discussion with the Chief Minister in a meeting. We are trying to see how the difficulties faced by the State of Orissa can be rectified in a short span of time. Since the hon. Member wanted to know the steps being initiated for future, I want to say that we have Ib valley. This project is pending with the Planning Commission for investment decision. We are trying to expedite it. This is a big project and we are trying to see that as early as possible it is commissioned. Then there is the Talcher Super Thermal Station. Investment approval of the project will be considered after clearance for environment and forest has been obtained. This is also a very big project. We have to see how we can expedite it as far as possible. The performance of this station has been unsatisfactory and the PLF has all along ranged from 32 to 38 per cent. Orissa is one of the five States where we have to take a separate meeting in order to see how this PLF performance can be improved. I am sure, after the meeting with the Chief Minister and other authority of the State Government, there will be better improvement. There is a tremendous scope for improvement of power generation in Orissa.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Still the answer is not specific. It is all general and only consolation. We know for certain and I think the hon. Minister also knows that owing to seasonal variations the power generation was reduced to 20 per cent during the last year. But while answering the Minister says that the project can be considered for investment. These are all vague answers. I have already asked the hon. Minister to be specific. I again urge upon the Minister to be very specific as to when these projects are going to start. What is the time bound programme. I do not want in general terms how much power is generated, what is the deficit. I want the hon. Minister to be specific as to when it is going to be implemented.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I would like specifically to tell the hon. Member..

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He is the "Specific Minister".

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : As far as Talcher Super Thermal Station is concerned, it will be 2 x 500 MW capacity. We have already received a report of the committee for environmental and forest clearance. That is now being examined by the Department of Environment. But basically the question is of money. 1000 MW requires more than Rs. 1000 crores of investment. As I was saying the other day, all that we need is money. As soon as I get the money....

MR. SPEAKER : Who does not ?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : The compliments of our leader, Shri Madhu Dandavate, has not been made use of.

SHRI BASANT SATHE : We have also posed these projects for bilateral funding. Short of saying, beg, borrow or steal, I am willing to get resources from any where. As soon as I get the resources, these are very viable and good projects rich projects and we would ourselves be keen to see that these projects are implemented at the earliest.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Cr. P. C. is in force.

[*English*]

SHRI SARAT DEB : Sir, I want to put one question. I want to know from the hon. Minister that whatever existing power generation projects are there, are they working up to the standard, satisfaction and optimum capacity and if not, what steps has the Central Government taken so far to expedite the things, particularly the thermal power station at Talcher. The hon. Minister has said that if he gets money, then only this will come up. So, should I presume that till now there is no certainty of getting money from any other source ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, as far as the last question is concerned, this

answer is yes. As far as the existing projects are concerned, the whole Orissa scene is that out of 1,185 MW, 470 MW comes from the thermal power station at Talcher. Rest all comes from hydel projects at Hirakud, Balimela Rengali and Muchkund. Therefore, if reservoirs are not full, as far as the hydel projects are concerned, we are in difficulty. As far as the working of the existing Talcher Thermal Power Station is concerned, as was stated by my colleague unfortunately the performance is that although they have improved slightly, it is still below 40 PLF (Plant Load Factor). We can only help the State. I personally went to Talcher. We are trying to help them in improving their machinery, equipment and also coal supply so that they can improve the performance. I feel confident that we will be able to achieve something.

MR. SPEAKER : Next question. Shri D.N. Reddy.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, you do not look at the ladies. She wanted to add something.

MR. SPEAKER : Ladies always add.

Collaboration Arrangement for Distributed Digital Control System

*169. SHRI D.N. REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a distributed digital control system for power station has been developed in India indigenously by the Corporate Research Development Division of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., Hyderabad and has been installed at the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board's Hydro-electric plant in Srisaïlam and in MIDHANI's captive power plant ;

(b) whether BHEL has entered into a collaboration arrangement with Born Bobery of Switzerland to manufacture the same system ; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTER-

PRISES (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) : (a) Corporate Research & Development Division of BHEL has not developed a Distributed Digital Control System. It has developed a Programmable Logic Controller which has been installed at Srisaïlam Hydro Electric Plant & Midhani Steel Rolling Mill.

(b) and (c). BHEL has entered into a collaboration agreement with Brown Bobery of Switzerland for Distributed Digital Control System, which has not been developed indigenously.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Mr. Tewary has got up ten minutes earlier.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : He is your colleague, you should have told him.

[English]

SHRI D.N. REDDY : Sir, will the hon. Minister state whether it is a fact that the Distributed Digital Control System is more accurate and improves productivity in various industries and power stations ? If so, when does the Bharat Heavy Electricals expect to manufacture this system with the technical knowhow from Switzerland and what are the financial implications ?

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the question has been framed, it appears that there is some misunderstanding in the mind of the hon. Member. He has mistaken one system for another. What we have entered into collaboration with actually this Switzerland company is the Distributed Digital Control System. We have indigenously developed another system which is different from the one that I have just mentioned. This is a Programmable Logic Control or PLC. * By way of clarification I can inform the hon. Member and the august House that D.D.C. are computer based system for complete automatic control of complex processes in industrial process and power generating plant. This system is applied to larger units and they are dependable systems. On the other hand P.L.C. which has been developed