

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : I have made it very clear that it is going to be an independent Committee appointed by the Government.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MURLI DEORA : The biggest programme of the BHEL is to manufacture power plants. I would like to ask whether he has enough coordination with the Department of Energy, Department of Power. Why is Government continuing to import big power plants when they are being manufactured by BHEL ? Why are State Electricity Boards, NTPC, etc., are importing power plants when BHEL can supply them ?

MR. SPEAKER : Is it relevant ?

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : Although this question does not pertain to this....

MR. SPEAKER : I do not think it is relevant.

Mr. Pratap Bhanu Sharma.

[Translation]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, though BHEL has made very good efforts to achieve self-reliance in the matter of developing electrical equipments in the last 25 years, yet I want to know the percentage of the total Budget allocations being spent by them on Research and Development effort ? How many such indigenous designs have been prepared or equipments developed which have helped in import substitution ?

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : BHEL spends 2 per cent of its total Budget on R & D effort and it is the highest among the engineering industries. But if we want to compare it with our competitors then it is very low. But keeping in view the R & D work development of system and products and Commercialisation done by BHEL, the expenditure is not much. So far as the list sought by you is concerned, as I have stated earlier, it is with me and if you want, I can read it out.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Give me a copy.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : The information will be given to you.

[English]

Blue print for import of power equipment

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\*721. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :  
SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Electricity Authority has drawn up a blue print for import of power equipment;

(b) if so, the details thereof with the total cost involved;

(c) the names of countries from where equipment is likely to be imported; and

(d) the effect of imports on indigenous manufactures ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (d). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) to (d). The Central Electricity Authority has assessed the requirement of the power sector during the Seventh and Eighth Plan periods for meeting the demand for power. While primary reliance will continue to be placed on indigenous sources for procurement of power equipment, external assistance for some power projects may have to be availed in view of the overall constraint of resources. Since external assistance is resorted to on a case by case basis keeping in view the interest of the country, it is not possible to quantify the total cost which may be involved in external assistance which is yet to be decided.

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Sir, I have gone through the statement of the

Hon. Minister. The Central Electricity Authority has made an assessment of the total requirement of power equipments during the 7th and 8th Plan. The Government has also decided to import power equipments. Sir, our indigenous power equipment manufacture in the country both in the private and the public sector is already facing recession due to steady import of such power equipment. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister the reasons for such import of equipments and the total estimated cost of the equipment and what percentage of gap between the demand and supply is going to be met by this import of power equipments ?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : Sir, I would like to made it absolutely clear that there is no question of blue-print being prepared by the CEA for import of power equipment. That should be categorically clear. And also we give primary reliance and importance to our own domestic and indigenous industries. I would like to say during the Sixth Plan 89 per cent of the equipment has come from BHEL and in the Seventh Plan 80 per cent of this has come from the BHEL and even so in all our future perspective, we have seen that these bilateral and international and other things will only be considered when we are not able to meet additionality of funds. That will be done only on the case to case basis. Therefore, the question of importing power equipment will only arise when we are not able to meet the demand and the consideration will be given to our own indigenous production.

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : My second question will be whether Government have made any negotiation or contract with other countries for external assistance to buy power equipments and, if so, the names of the countries from which the power equipments will be purchased and steps taken thereon.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : Sir we have only Tehri project with 2,400 MW. We have come to an agreement. Now, negotiations are being conducted. Regarding Dulhasti, that is still under negotiating table. The other projects have been identified but no agreements have been done so far.

DR. G VIJAYA RAMA RAO : The installation of the central power projects in

particular zone, the power produced by the power projects it equally shared among the States of the particular zone. The power station of Andhra, the NTPC and others are equally distributed according to the state quota from the NTPC. Whereas the central power stations like Kalapakkam and Neyveli situated in Madras, the power produced from these power stations is not equally shared by the Southern States in view of the acute power crisis in Andhra. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the quota of Neyveli and Kalapakkam will be supplied to Andhra without any delay ?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : Sir, would you allow this question ?

MR. SPEAKER : If it is irrelevant, then don't answer.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : Apart from the Andhra, we see that on the basis of power survey and after additional generation of 22,000 MW by the 7th Plan, there will be a shortage and a gap between the demand and supply. Because of that sometimes we have to go for the bilateral assistance. About Andhra, I do not think it is directly relevant.

SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Sir, some parts of Gujarat, especially the Western region of Saurashtra and Kutch depend entirely on thermal power energy source which, as everybody knows, is inadequate and people are suffering in that area. May I know from the Government what is the programme for those parts of Gujarat, that is, Saurashtra and Kutch as far as the energy to be got from solar, wind and tidal water is concerned and which is available in plenty and cheaply also ?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : On the 14th of this month I took a meeting of the western zone including Gujarat where all these matters were raised and all these things were reviewed. I think in the 8th Plan we are considering the tidal power project for over 80 MW. I think the situation will gradually improve.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : We have landed in a conflicting situation. On the one side our basic policy is self-

reliance in the areas of technology... (*Interruptions*) Why they are restless, I don't know. One difficulty with the people sitting to your left side is that when they are about to be convinced, they disrupt. That is the problem.

**MR. SPEAKER :** If they get convinced by you, then they will be no longer in the Opposition !

**SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY :** The other aspect is that we are freely importing credit type technology although the technology is available in our country. My question is whether any exercise has been made that our R&D efforts will be affected by such importing of credit type projects with the technology which is available in India.

**SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI :** It has been taken into consideration and a case-by-case study is being done.

**SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY :** You have stated that in your reply. I want to know whether any exercise has been made.

**SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI :** In spite of all our efforts of commissioning of on-going projects and also increasing our efficiency, plant load factor. etc., we still find that when there is a shortage we have to import, taking the technology and the equipment into consideration. But at no stage have we ever deviated from the path that our indigenous technology will not be taken into consideration.

**SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH :** The Hon. Minister in her reply to a Member from Gujarat said that she had taken a meeting. But that is not enough, I would not like the renewable energy programme specifically cover Gujarat. It is a programme by which even if this country could save 5 per cent in our petroleum imports, it would add and be a great asset, to the national exchequer. But, unfortunately what has happened is that for the renewable programme the budget allocation is less than it should be. What is the Ministry planning to do regarding solar wind and tidal energy, which developing countries specially India has plenty ?

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :** I thank the Hon. Member for this question. The solution for the power problem really lies in the renewable sources of energy ultimately, because it is available in plenty—both solar, and also wind. It is a fact that the allocation for this energy source and its development has been very meagre. It is about Rs. 100 crores. That is because of the general perception that we had up till now about the potential of this source. If the House with its new perception feels that this energy source really can help our people in the rural areas, particularly in the remote areas and the backward areas, I think even now ways and means can be found. Because whatever funds are available for the rural development, ultimately are for this purpose. If this can help rural development, that is what ultimately we want. I need your advice, your backing and the support of the House. I am already taking up this matter with my colleagues in the Finance, Planning and Rural Development Ministry to see how more funds can be made available for this renewable source.

**SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, you save us from this. Now every Minister comes to the House and says, "I agree with you provided Planning and Finance help me." What does it imply ? Let the Minister first consult the Planning and Finance before coming to the House. It is a new technique.

**MR. SPEAKER :** I can only sympathise with you.

#### Rigs with Oil India Limited

\*722. **PROF. PARAG CHALIHA :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of drilling rigs owned and hired by Oil India Limited, year-wise; during the last three years;

(b) the total metreage of drilling, year-wise, during the aforesaid period; and

(c) the average metreage drilled per rig per year during the said period ?