

speed up the commissioning of projects under construction and to build a National Power grid in the next ten years; and

(b) if so, what concrete follow up action is being taken to implement these decisions?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURY): (a) & (b). One of the most important objectives in holding the Conference of Power Ministers of States was to give a new direction to State Electricity Boards to reorganise their operations on modern management concepts. In the Conference, consensus was arrived at to introduce certain new ideas such as setting up of betterment-cum-renovation teams for each of the Power Stations, developing comprehensive implementation schedules and cash flow projections for each of the new or 'on-going' projects, development of a long term power plan for the country, professionalisation of various disciplines, and adoption of a commercial approach in financial management and dealings with equipment suppliers etc. The progress of on-going projects was reviewed at the Conference with a view to solving problems impeding speedy implementation.

The role of the Central Government in transmission was recognised in the general acceptance of all the States of the concept of centrally-owned National Grid. No specific period for building such a grid was decided at the Conference, as the construction and evolution of the National Grid is by its very nature a gradual and continuous process. The Centre is in the process of evolving suitable institutional arrangements in this regard.

Detailed follow-up discussions are to be held with individual State Electricity Boards in the coming weeks on all the above matters, as the implementation of many of the required improvements lies within the direct purview of the State authorities.

### Financial Assistance for Kandi Master Plan

\*536. SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request from the Government of West Bengal for any financial assistance for the implementation of the 'Kandi Plan' for flood prevention and flood control in the severely flood-prone Kandi area in the lower Mayurakshi river basin the district of Murshidabad in West Bengal;

(b) the total estimated costs of the Kandi Master Plan as calculated by the West Bengal Government and the amount of assistance sought for; and

(c) what decisions have been taken by Government on this request of the Government of West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR PANDAY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) & (c). The West Bengal Government has estimated the cost of the Kandi Area Integrated Flood Control-cum-Drainage Scheme, Phase I to be Rs. 51.50 crores.

In view of the reply to (a) above, the questions regarding the amount of assistance sought and the decision of Government thereon do not arise.

### Computer Billing for DESU

\*538. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 22nd June, 1980 captioned "DESU Computer billing to stay, no matter if consumers suffer";

(b) whether it is a fact that almost 90 per cent of the computer bills are erroneous and come back for remarking annually;

(c) the estimated expenditure involved in the computerisation of bills for one cycle inclusive of the fees paid to the Bombay computer firm, sending of the data and DESU personnel to Bombay and other incidentals involved in the process;

(d) whether it takes 3 months or so for bills deposited in the authorised banks to be credited to a consumer's a/c; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take to set matters right and afford necessary relief to the harassed consumers in the capital?

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURY):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. DESU have reported that about 10 per cent of the bills prepared on computer had to be subsequently corrected manually.

(c) DESPU have reported Rs. 1.22 lakhs per month as payment to computer firm for a complete billing cycle and that none of DESU officials is required to be sent to Bombay for this purpose.

(d) There has been some delay on the part of the banks in remitting counter-foils of the bills to Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking Central Cash Collection Office.

In view of the inconvenience caused to the consumers, it is proposed to do away with the scheme of collection of electricity consumption charges bills through the banks, which also accounts for only 4 to 5 per cent of the total collection by DESU and to revert to the original system of collection through DESU Cash Collection Centres.

(e) Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking have been directed to take expeditious steps for stabilisation of the computer billing system by ensuring the co-operation of the staff, and also making necessary changes in the Master Data for effecting improvement in the Billing system. Steps have been taken by DESU to attend to public complaints promptly at their District Offices.

### Take-over of Sahu Chemicals by Orissa Cement

\*539. **KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI:** Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Management of Sahu-Chemicals of Varanasi (U.P.) is being taken over by the Management of Orissa Cement; and

(b) if so, whether the matter is under consideration of Government?

**THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER):** (a) An application has been received from M/s. Orissa Cement Limited seeking Central Government's approval under sub-section (4) of Section 23 of the MRTP Act, 1969 to their proposal to take over by purchase a unit named "Sahu Chemicals & Fertilizers" belonging to M/s. New Central Jute Mills Company Limited.

(b) Yes, Sir

### काहलगांव में ताप बिजली घर

544. **श्री सूरज भान :** क्या ऊर्जा और कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने राष्ट्रीय ताप बिजली निगम निर्माण सेवाएं विभाग द्वारा पेश की गईं दिनांक 21 जुलाई, 1979 की संयुक्त जांच रिपोर्ट और काहलगांव सुपर ताप बिजली घर की दिनांक 30 जुलाई, 1979 की योजना रिपोर्ट का अध्ययन कर लिया है;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने इन रिपोर्टों को ध्यान में रखते हुए काहलगांव में एक सुपर ताप बिजली घर के निर्माण का निणय ले लिया है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसकी क्षमता कितने मेगावाट होगी और उसका कार्य कब आरम्भ हो जाएगा?

**ऊर्जा और कोयला मंत्री (श्री ए० बी० ए० मनी खान चौधरी) :** (क) राष्ट्रीय ताप बिजली निगम के निर्माण सेवा विभाग ने तारीख 21 जुलाई, 1979 को कोई संयुक्त जांच रिपोर्ट सरकार को प्रस्तुत नहीं की है। काहलगांव सुपर ताप बिजली केन्द्र के बारे में तारीख 30 जुलाई, 1979 को कोई आयोजना रिपोर्ट भी सरकार को प्रस्तुत नहीं की गई है।

(ख) . जैसा कि ऊपर कहा गया है, उपर्युक्त रिपोर्ट सरकार को प्राप्त नहीं हुई है। तथापि, केन्द्र सरकार ने राष्ट्रीय ताप बिजली निगम को