

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday April 23, 1981/Vaisakha
8, 1903 (Saka).

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Congratu-
lations.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I
am so happy to be with you. Mr.
Bosu, I have brought it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: O. K.
I will collect the same.

MR. SPEAKER: I will give it to
you.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: You
generally answer him "Meet me in
the Chamber". Why, make a com-
mitment here?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you.

Qn. No. 968.

World Bank aid for six Thermal Power Plants

*968. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:
SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gov-
ernment have sought financial aid
from the World Bank for six thermal
power plants in the country; and

(b) if so, the total amount of finan-
cial aid expected to be received from

the World Bank for the above refer-
red six thermal power plants in the
country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI
VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) There
are at present five thermal power pro-
jects under execution in the country
for which World Bank assistance has
been sought and obtained. These are
the super thermal power stations at
Singrauli, Korba, Ramagundam,
Farakka and the Trombay thermal
power project.

(b) So far financial assistance total-
ling to 1265 million dollars has been
negotiated for these projects. In
addition, negotiations for World Bank
assistance for the expansion schemes
of the Korba and the Ramagundam
super thermal power projects are also
expected to be completed shortly.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will
the hon. Minister be kind enough to
give me the total cost, project-wise,
approved and the time limit for their
completion, and the approved capa-
city?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY
(SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN
CHAUDHURI): I can only tell you
what we have got so far. And also,
I can give you the target date of com-
pletion for all projects. For the Sing-
rauli Central Super Thermal Project
we are getting \$450 million. Its
capacity is 2,000 Megawatt. The first
unit is going to be commissioned in
1982 and it will be completed in 1983.
I have visited this power station and
I can tell the House that there is no
slippage. Yet, I do not know. I can
say, we will try to see that slippage
does not occur. In the meantime, I
am very happy that the Minister of
Parliamentary Affairs has arranged a

visit of some of the prominent Members to this power station. So, they themselves can see how the work is being done.

AN HON. MEMBER: Please name the prominent Members.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: You cannot distinguish between one Member and another. All are prominent.

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: For Korba the capacity is 600 Megawatt. Its capacity is 2,100 megawatts. We have got \$200 million. The first unit is going to be commissioned in 1983. It will go on till 1989, to complete the whole thing. Ramagundam is 600 MW. This project will receive aid of 250 million dollars. It is going to be upgraded to 2100 MW. It will go on from 1983 to 1992. In 1983 we are going to commission the first unit. Farakka is 600 MW at present, 250 million dollars aid will be received. It is going to be upgraded to 2100 MW. The first unit will be completed in 1983. It will go on till 1991.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the hon. Minister realise this particular fact that during the last 33 years, we have not got one single project approved by the Government or the Planning Commission which has been completed within the approved sanctioned grants and within the approved time-limit not even a single project. The project costs have gone up by 1000 or 1200 or 1500 per cent the result being that whatever allocations we are making in our annual plans every year, 80 per cent of it goes to the ongoing projects. Even in this year's plan for 1981-82, 80 per cent of our plan allocations are for ongoing projects. So, I would like to know from the Government whether the Government is aware of this fact that in a poor country like India, this is practically throwing down the gutter the poor taxpayer's money? Would the Government hereafter set up a time-limit and see to it that a monitoring cell is set up, making the

man in charge responsible for completing the project within the time schedule and if not, severe punishment will be awarded to him?

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: I am well aware of the slippage and we are trying to overcome that. With regard to central projects and assistance from world Bank one of the important conditions is the organisational function. If they are not satisfied with the organisational function, they do not give the assistance. So, in this case, we are all the time monitoring and I can assure you that on the Central sector of super thermal power stations, there will be no slippage.

SHRI K. MALLANNA: In view of the answer given by the Minister that only five thermal projects in the country are taken up, I want to know whether the thermal project in Raichur in Karnataka is being taken up and if so, what is the stage...

MR. SPEAKER: No, this question does not come out of this.

SHRI D. P. YADAV: I am thankful to the Minister for his visit to Kahalgaon very recently. In view of his visit, there has been a great expectation in the public mind there that Kahalgaon power station is coming up soon. May I know whether the techno-economic appraisal of Kahalgaon power station has been completed?

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: It has been completed and other formalities have been completed. So far as World Bank assistance is concerned, we are going to ask from them in 1983. In the time in between we will carry on with our own resources.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Before I put my question, I want to remind you that when I asked the question on a previous occasion, I was told, "I will enquire into the matter". I take it for granted that the enquiries have been made. My question is..

MR. SPEAKER: With reference to the context.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: With reference to the past context. Is it not a fact that in the last Lok Sabha, during the presentation of the railway budget, an assurance was given to the House that efforts will be made to take up the matter with the Planning Commission, to get sanction for five captive power plants for the railways, including the upgradation of one power plant? I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he has already contacted the Planning Commission, whether the captive power plants have been cleared and whether you will be able to get them with your own resources. In case you are not able to meet the requirements of the power plants with local resources, would World Bank loan be made available for these power plants?

MR. SPEAKER: You can give him information separately regarding this.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Shri Satish Agarwal, who has put this question, has raised a very relevant point about increasing cost and time consumption in erecting these power plants. Is it not a fact that for the supply of plant and equipment for the Tamil Nadu Thermal Power Plant project a Japanese firm had quoted the lowest rate, quickest delivery and yen credit, while another multi-national, Siemens quoted a higher rate and no concessions and yet the contract was given to Siemens? If so, what have you to say about it?

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: We are discussing thermal power plants with World Bank Assistance. I do not know how this question comes here.

Replacement of Small Units at URBAN

*969. **SHRI AHMED MOHAMMED PATEL:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have taken any decision on the

request of the Government of Gujarat on a scheme of replacement of small units of UTRAN by installation of one unit of 120 MW; and

(b) if not, the time likely to be taken by Government for its finalisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b). The proposal received from the Government of Gujarat for the replacement of the small units at Utram by installation of one unit of 120 MW is still under consideration as the availability of coal to meet fully the requirements of the larger sized unit has not been confirmed by the Standing Linkage Committee for Coal. The proposal will be considered for techno-economic approval by the Central Electricity Authority after the receipt of confirmation of the availability of local coal for meeting the requirements of the project from the Standing Linkage Committee for Coal.

श्री अहमद मोहम्मद पटेल : गुजरात गवर्नमेंट ने तीन साल पहले यह प्रोपोजल भेजा था, मगर स्टैंडिंग लिन्केज कमेटी ने उसको कन्फर्म नहीं किया है। 1983 में बम्बई हाई की गैस उपलब्ध होने की आशा है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि अगर टेम्पोरेरी बेसिस पर कोल के वजाये गैस का यूज करने की एपर्बवल दी जाये, तो क्या गुजरात गवर्नमेंट द्वारा भेजी गई योजना को फाइनलाइज किया जायेगा।

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURY): It is for the Petroleum Ministry to say whether gas would be available for those power plants; it is not for me to say that. But I can assure the hon. Member that we are trying for coal linkage with all the power stations in Gujarat. As a matter of fact, we are trying to exploit the various coal fields as quickly as possible so that we can meet all the demands of Gujarat. Because of the coal linkage, we have