

Computer Based Power Plant Control System

*1041. **SHRI KUMARI ANANTHAN:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) how many State Electricity Boards have decided to introduce computer-based power plant control system, known as Data Acquisition System;

(b) the details of collaboration arrangements that the Public Sector Firms, Instrumentation Limited, and Electric Corporation of India Limited, have entered with overseas firms for the manufacture of a data logging and data acquisition systems for power generation and process industries; and

(c) whether systems of this nature can be introduced for projects with a capacity of less than 200 mw also?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Central Electricity Authority have advised the Electricity Boards for the introduction of Data Acquisition System as it would help in storing and retrieving information in sequential form which can be useful for diagnosis of mal-function and enable more efficient and economic operation of large thermal power stations having units of capacity 200 MW and above.

(b) Neither Instrumentation Limited Kota nor Electronic Corporation of India Ltd. have entered into any collaboration with overseas firms for the manufacture of data logging and data acquisition system for power generation. ILK have however entered into collaboration with Electronics Corporation of India, who will provide the computer hardware and ILK will provide the sensing system and software for Data Acquisition System.

(c) As this system is very expensive, it is not recommended for projects having units with a capacity less than 200 MW.

Application for Registration of Traders to sell Steel

*1043. **SHRI RAM DENI RAM:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Steel Authority of India Ltd., Patna, had invited applications for registering traders for selling steel materials as per the company policy;

(b) whether it is also a fact that eligible applicants belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were to be given preference;

(c) if so, the number of Scheduled Castes/Tribes candidates applied for registering themselves for selling steel materials;

(d) whether any decision has been taken; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Five applicants have declared themselves as belonging to Scheduled Castes. No applicant has declared himself as belonging to a Scheduled Tribe.

(d) and (e). Since a large number of applications received by the various branches have to be considered, final selection of traders for registration is not yet complete; the selection is likely to be finalised shortly.

Regulations on Audit in Private Sector Firms

*1045. **SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:** Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to impose some kind of regulation on the Audit in private sector firms with a view to bring about efficiency and propriety;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?