

power projects would be set up in private sector and in joint venture. The Hon. Minister has stated that 57 Memorandum of Understandings have been signed. The Government have formulated some guidelines under which all the projects worth over Rs. 25 crore would have to obtain concurrence of the Central Electricity Authority. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister the member of power projects pending with the Central Authority of Gujarat, Rajasthan and Maharashtra and by what time will these be cleared. These have been referred to the Central Authority as all these projects are worth Rs. 200-500-1000 crore.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : Mr. Speaker, this limit has been raised from Rs. 25 crore to 100 crore. A total of 9 MOUs have been signed in Gujarat and these are of 4170 megawatt capacity and their cost comes up to Rs. 14,889 crore. The CEA has a total of around 41 proposals...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : I have asked about concurrence.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : There are a number of, say around 41 proposals which are under consideration. I do not have the requisite data in regard to Gujarat.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had asked as to whether the pending projects have been cleared so far or not.

Alright, my second question is with regard to the information I have just received from Dr. Chidambaram, who is the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, that the Maharashtra Government and the Gujarat Government have given their approval for setting of the third unit of Tarapur Power Project and both the Governments have decided to provide funds also. Now only the approval of the Central Government is awaited for the project of 500 megawatt capacity. I would like to know the time by which the Central Government's approval will be accorded to the power project.

MR. SPEAKER : He will give a reply when you sit down.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : This question does not concern this Ministry.

MR. SPEAKER : Alright.

*[English]*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : The hon. Minister has mentioned about the number of MOUs which are signed so far. I would like to know from him as to whether he knows that the MOUs that are signed are concentrated in certain States of the country and there are areas of the country which are being totally denied such MOUs. If that is so, which are the States where maximum number of MOUs have been signed and which are the States where such MOUs are denied? Is there any step that the Government of India is contemplating to attract investments in those States which are power starved

even today and also other States like Bihar and Kerala? The position is very bad in these States and I find that there are no such MOUs in Kerala. There was a proposal for Kayankulam Projects in Kerala which also has not come through.

MR. SPEAKER : Please formulate the question.

PROJ. P.J. KURIEN : I would like to know the reaction of the Minister of this.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : The details of 57 MOUs are :

Andhra Pradesh	—	28
Assam	—	1
Madhya Pradesh	—	6
Orissa	—	1
Tamil Nadu	—	10
Uttar Pradesh	—	10, and
Central Government	—	1

As far as the Kayankulam Project is concerned, I want to assure the hon. Member on the floor of the House that we have made substantial progress; and the matter is now before the Cabinet Committee. A decision will be taken as soon as that is done. NTPC is all geared up to take up the Kayankulam Project.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, the hon. Minister has said in his reply that from the 18th of February 1995, we have changed the policy and that 'open bidding' has become a compulsory thing for any MoU. May I know from the hon. Minister that in view of the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy, are you going to change the eight fast track projects which have already been cleared, that is, before 18th February, 1995 or to review those projects on the basis of the recommendations made by the Standing Committee on Energy and reopen the whole thing regarding the eight fast track projects including Enron, AES and others?

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : There is no such proposal.

#### Production of Stainless Steel

+

\*3 SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :  
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA :

Will the MINISTER OF STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the domestic capacity of stainless steel production in the country;

(b) the extent of gap between demand and supply of stainless steel in the country, during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the consumption of stainless steel has been increasing; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to meet the increasing demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (d). A *Statement* is laid on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

(a) Alloy Steels Plant, Durgapur, of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), has a capacity to produce 70,000 tonnes of stainless steel slabs/plates/billets and bars. Electric Arc Furnace units having secondary refining facilities can produce stainless steel. The existing capacity of the electric arc furnaces having such facilities is about 17.5 lakh tonnes. Besides, stainless steel can also be manufactured in conventional electric arc furnace/induction furnace units not having secondary refining facilities.

(b) The estimated production of stainless steel during the last 3 years was under :

Year	Production (Tonnes)
1992-93	215,000
1993-94	285,000
1994-95	361,000

Domestic production of stainless steel is nearly adequate to meet the domestic demand.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It has been estimated that the consumption of stainless steel will increase to about 6.14 lakh tonnes by 2000-01. Sufficient capacity already exists in the country to meet this increased demand for stainless steel.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the quantum of stainless steel imported during the year 1993-94 and 1994-95. How much foreign reserve was spent on it and what target has been fixed for the year 1995-96? The names of the steel plants in the Public Sector in the country which are proposed to be

modernised and expanded and what is the estimated cost of this project?

[*English*]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, at the moment, production of stainless steel is sufficient in our country and we have got excess capacity. For special type of stainless steel, import of only a marginal quantity of about 15,000 tonnes during 1994-95, is estimated to be made from outside which is not being produced in our country. I do not have the figure of the quantum of money that is needed in foreign exchange; I will send it to the hon. Member or lay it on the Table of the House.

As regards production, 70,000 tonnes of stainless steel can be produced in the Durgapur Alloy Steel Plant and there is also a capacity of about 17.50 lakh tonnes in the secondary sector. So, this is the overall position. Apart from this, the use of stainless steel alloy is gradually increasing. There is also a demand for our stainless steel in foreign countries. Our Salem Steel Plant has exported some quantity of it to Australia and USA. The overall situation is that consumption of stainless steel is engaged mostly in utensils, partly in automobile sector and also in other sectors. So, the prospect is very bright for the future.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister has admitted in part 'C' of his reply that consumption of stainless steel is on the increase. With this in view I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as to whether any special measures have been taken by the Government to boost the production of stainless steel and what is the demand and supply position of stainless steel in Gujarat?

[*English*]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : As I said there is enough availability and at the moment, we are not thinking of increasing the capacity. There is an increase in demand. We are in a position to meet it because electric arc furnace has the capacity, with secondary refining, to increase the production. I do not have the figures of demand and supply in regard to Gujarat but I can assure that there is no dearth of availability of stainless steel material all over the country. Enough of stainless steel is there either in the utensils or other sectors.

#### Enron Power Project

+

\*4. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV :  
SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :