

(a) whether the Union Government had appointed a one-man Committee to advise Government on the matter of principles to be followed in making Kerosene allocations to various States and Union Territories;

(b) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, whether a copy thereof will be laid on the Table of the House; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Reports of Committees, which are appointed to advise Government on specific issues of day-to-day nature, are not normally laid on the Table of Parliament.

Transmission losses

8193. SHRI MUHIRAM SAIKIA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to high transmission losses and failure to bring about an integrated operation of the regional grids and relatively low (PLF) plant load factor, the target of power generation during the Sixth Five Year Plan could not be achieved; and

(c) if so, the concrete steps taken so far in this direction to achieve the target in the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) During Sixth Plan period, 6,58,780 million units of power were generated as against the target of 6,61,990 million units. As such, the achievement was 99.52% of the target. Though low plant load factor, of thermal stations of some Electricity Boards affected their generation, the transmission losses and regional grid operations by and large did not affect the power generation.

(b) In order to improve the performance of thermal power stations, a number of measures have been taken including ;—

(a) Assistance to State Electricity Boards/power stations for undertaking plant betterment programmes.

(b) Assisting State Electricity Boards/power stations in procurement of requisite quality and quantity of coal and also spare parts from indigenous and foreign sources.

(c) Visit of Task Force and Roving Teams to identify weak areas requiring improvement and preparation of time bound programmes for rectification.

(d) Training of engineers and operation and maintenance personnel.

(e) Implementation of a centrally sponsored renovation and modernisation scheme covering 32 thermal stations, with Central loan assistance totalling Rs. 500 crores.

Canadian assistance for development of Coal and Power sectors

8194. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Canadian Government have offered assistance for the development of coal and power sectors in the country;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken by the Union Government in the matter if so, the details of the terms and conditions agreed upon for Canadian assistance in the coal and power sectors; and

(c) its likely impact on the indigenous public sector undertaking BHEL which has created sufficient capacity and entered into technological agreement with leading electrical equipment manufacturers in the world?