

- (b) the main features of the scheme;
- (c) the reaction of the States to this proposal; and
- (d) the advantages of such Centralisation?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI K. C. PANT):
 (a) Proposals to activate and strengthen the Central Electricity Authority set up under the provisions of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, are under examination of the Government of India.

(b) It is proposed that the Central Electricity Authority should be reactivated with the appointment of full time members. The functions of the Central Electricity Authority are proposed to be enlarged and the more important amongst them would be as follows:—

- (1) To assist the Ministry in evolving a national power policy.
- (2) To accord technical approval to all investment estimates relating to generation of power or major transmission schemes.
- (3) To establish adequate monitoring arrangements for power projects, including those under construction in the country.
- (4) To arrange facilities for the training of engineers, technicians and operators required for the construction, operation and maintenance of power systems in the country
- (5) To assist States in implementing the modern inventory control measures.
- (6) To coordinate research activities with the Central Power Research Institute and other agencies.

(c) The States broadly agree with the proposal.

(d) The functions relating to the construction of power projects and the generation, transmission and distribution of power would largely remain with the States as at present. The Central Electricity Authority would discharge those functions which can best be undertaken at the national level and which would ensure the efficient planning and implementation of the power programme as a whole.

Kerala Newsprint Factory

352. **SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:**

SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA:

SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR:

Will the Minister of **INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY** be pleased to state—

(a) whether the proposed newsprint factory in Kerala will be delayed due to Canada's recent attitude towards India.

(b) if so, steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether more newsprint units are contemplated; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) and (b) A final decision regarding the source of foreign exchange for the Kerala Newsprint Project is likely to be taken soon, and the project implementation is not likely to be delayed for this reason.

(c) and (d) Apart from Kerala Project, three schemes in private sector for a capacity of 1,64,000 tonnes per annum have been approved and the expansion of Nepa Mills from 30,000 tonnes to 75,000 tonnes per annum capacity is under implementation.