

Statement-II*Details of Project.*

Sl.No.	Name of Project	Capacity (MW)
1.	RANGANADI HEP	405
2.	KOEL KARO HEP	710
3.	DHAULIGANGA HEP I	4x70
4.	TEHRI DAM HPP	1000
5.	NATHPA JHAKRI HEP	1500
6.	VINDHYACHAL STPP II	2x500
7.	UNCHAHAHAR TPP ST-II	2x210
8.	KCEL KARO TR LINE	CKM 215
9.	ULDOS, SR	-
10.	LDC, NR	-
11.	AGARTALA TR. SYSTEM	CKM 126
12.	RAPPB TR. SYSTEM	CKM 621
13.	TEHRI TR. SYSTEM	KV 800 CKM 3000
14.	PANCHET HILL II HEP	40

*[English]***National Power Development Fund**

*213. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to levy cess on power generation and not on consumption for raising the National Power Development Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Hydro Cess Bill is likely to be introduced in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) A proposal for enactment of a legislation enabling establishment of Electricity Development Fund by levy of cess on the electricity generation is under examination.

(b) The proceeds realised from the imposition of the cess will be deposited in the Consolidated Fund of India and, thereafter, shared between the Central and State Governments.

The amount available in the State Electricity Development Fund will be utilised for promoting hydro power development including small hydel power projects and for improvements in the transmission/distribution network including the sub-transmission/distribution system.

The amount available in the Central Electricity Development Fund will be utilised for the following purposes:

- (i) Financing the expenditure on survey and investigation and preparation of DPRs in respect of Hydro

Projects which will provide benefit to more than one State.

- (ii) Investment in pre-construction activities including expenditure on land acquisition. These activities will include construction of access roads and bridges.

- (iii) Development of small and mini hydro projects.

- (iv) Financing the expenditure on renovation and modernisation of power plants.

- (v) Financing the expenditure on transmission lines/ associated sub-stations required for evacuating power from hydel stations to the load centres.

(c) After the proposal for the levy of cess on electricity generation is approved by the Government, a Bill will be formulated and, thereafter, introduced in the Parliament.

*[Translation]***Conference on Emission Level**

*214. SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether a conference was held recently in Argentina in which India refused to sign a proposal reducing the green house gas emission level; and

(b) If so, the facts in this regard and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) and (b) At the Fourth Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change held in Buenos Aires, Argentina during November 2-13, 1998, there was no proposal for signature for reducing greenhouse gas emission level. However, inclusion of an item in the provisional agenda for the Conference, relating to voluntary commitments for developing countries had to be dropped in view of opposition by a number of developing countries, including India.

Compensatory Afforestation for Developmental Work

*215. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy with regard to compensatory afforestation in the areas where the trees have been felled due to some developmental work; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the directions issued for its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) Yes Sir, The Ministry has formulated detailed guidelines for carrying out compensatory afforestation in lieu of the forest area diverted under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for various developmental projects.

(b) A statement giving details of existing guidelines of compensatory afforestation under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is enclosed.

Statement

The guidelines for compensatory afforestation have been issued to all the States/UT Governments for implementation. As per these guidelines, in case of diversion of a forest land required to be carried out over equivalent extent of non-forest land at the project cost. Then on-forest land so identified should be contiguous to or in the proximity of forest land to enable the Forest Department to effectively manage the newly planted area. In case the non-forest land for compensatory afforestation is not available in the same district, it may be identified any where else in the State as near as possible to the site of diversion, so as to minimise adverse impact on the micro-ecology of the area;

In the event of non-availability of non-forest land, compensatory afforestation can also be carried out over degraded forest land twice in extent of forest area being diverted. However, the non-availability of non-forest land is accepted by Central Government on furnishing of a certificate by the Chief Secretary of the State to this effect. In respect of the Central Sector projects, compensatory afforestation can be carried out directly over degraded forest land without furnishing of certificate of the Chief Secretary of the State. In respect of certain other categories of development projects which are small in nature and are directly beneficial to the local people, compensatory afforestation can be carried out over degraded forest land instead of non-forest land.

Research and Development in Road Sector

*216. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme relating to research and development in the road sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of research and development works done by the Government in the road sector;

(d) the expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years;

(e) the funds granted to each of the State for this purpose during the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(f) the number of schemes related to research and development completed during the last two years; and

(g) the schemes proposed to be launched in this field during the present year?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (g) 1. Yes, Sir. The Govt. have set up a Science and Technology Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Surface Transport with members drawn from Ministry of Surface Transport, Research/Academic Institutes and State P.W.D.s The Committee meets

from time to time to identify research areas and schemes to be taken up for implementation. This is a continuous process.

2. A list of on-going Research Schemes is enclosed as Statement - I.

3. The research schemes are being implemented through the Research/Academic Institutions. As such the Ministry do not release any fund to the States exclusively for R&D work. The expenditure incurred on R&D Schemes during last three years is as under:-

1995-96	Rs. 87.05 lakhs
1996-97	Rs. 91.82 lakhs
1997-98	Rs.414.28 lakhs

4. The list of R&D Schemes completed during the last two years is enclosed as Statement-II.

5. The list of Schemes proposed to be launched in the present year is enclosed as Statement-III.

Statement-I

List of on going Research Schemes

Sl. No.	Scheme No.	Description
1	2	3
1.	R-16	Studies for flexible pavement under different traffic and climatic conditions.
2.	R-19	NPS : Pavement performance study NPS-I Study on especially designed and constructed sections. S I Deleted. S II on NH -4 (Bangalore-Pune Road near Bangalore). S III On NH-8 Vadodara bypass in Gujarat. NPS-II Study of pavement sections being constructed under externally funded scheme : on NH-1, NH-2, NH-8. NPS-III Study of recently completed four lane works on NH-1, NH-2, NH-8 & state roads around Delhi under externally aided projects.
3.	R-41	Use of geo-grinds in improving performance.
4.	R-42	Use of additives in bitumen to improve durability and strength of bituminous courses.
5.	R-54	Use of rubber/polymer modified bitumen binder for road pavements on NHs near Allahabad.