

MW hydel. During April 1989 to February 1990, the actual generation of power from the thermal plants was 3321.3 million units (MU) and from hydel plants 149.7 million units (MU).

(b) Low generation of these units is because the major units are very old and suffer from a number of operational problems, e.g. forced outages, shutdown requirement for capital maintenance, etc.

(c) To improve the performance of Chandrapura and Bokaro 'A' plants, a renovation and modernisation scheme has been drawn up and majority of the works have already been completed. A few activities with long gestation periods like augmentation of coal handling plant and installation of electrostatic precipitators etc. have also been taken up.

[English]

Malpractices in Supply of LPG Cylinders

- *2. SHRI C.M. NEGI:
SHRI PARASRAM BHARD-
WAJ:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints about supply of underweight LPG cylinders by gas agencies and other malpractices committed by the deliverymen in supplying as cylinders to the customers in the capital;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to provide weighting machines to the deliverymen in order to give full satisfaction to the customers at the time of the delivery of cylinders; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore and the remedial steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). All LPG-filled cylinders are checked for correctness of weight and sealed at the bottling plants before despatch to distributors. LPG distributors are under strict instructions to ensure correct weight of LPG refill cylinders before making delivery to the customers. It is not considered necessary and practical to provide weighing machines to every delivery person of the distributors. Complaints about under-weight cylinders are investigated promptly by the oil marketing companies and, if established, such cylinders are replaced free of cost. Action against such distributors is also taken under the marketing discipline guidelines.

Tehri Dam Project

- *3. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any final decision regarding the implementation of the multi-crore Tehri Dam Project; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). The Government had, in November, 1986, decided to implement the Tehri Hydro Power Project Complex (2400 MW), which includes Tehri Dam Project, as a joint venture of the Government of India and the Government of Uttar Pradesh, and to seek Soviet technical and financial assistance for the same. There has been no change in this decision.

Daily Delhi-Bhubaneswar direct flight

*4. SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a daily Delhi-Bhubaneswar direct flight due to the heavy rush of passengers; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). The traffic potential and aircraft availability do not permit a daily direct flight between Delhi and Bhubaneswar.

Purchase of Airbus A-320

*5. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the press reports alleging payment of kickbacks in the purchase of Airbus A-320.

(b) if so, the details about the purchase of these Airbuses;

(c) whether Government propose to enquire into the deal; and

(d) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Some reports have appeared in the press to this effect.

(b) Indian Airlines, with the approval of the Government placed two orders for the purchase of Airbus A-320 aircraft. The first order was placed on the 15th of March, 1986 for 19 Airbus A-320 aircraft at a total project cost of Rs. 1,238.37 crores involving a foreign exchange component of US \$ 951.86 million and second order for the purchase of 12 Airbus A-320 aircraft was placed on the 5th of June, 1989 at a total project cost of Rs. 958.76 crores with a foreign exchange

component of US \$ 633.121 million.

(c) and (d). The matter is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

Maunath Bhanjan Thermal Power Station

*6. SHRI JAGDISH SINGH KUSHWAHA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to upgrade the capacity of Maunath Bhanjan thermal power station from 10 MW to 200 MW for the economic development as well as for removing the backwardness of eastern Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). No feasibility report to upgrade the power plant at Maunath Bhanjan has been received in the Central Electricity Authority for techno-economic appraisal.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Westland Helicopters

*7. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Fabled fleet lies forlorn" appearing in the 'Indian Express', New Delhi dated February 10, 1990;