

Power Supply in Calcutta from Bhutan

757. DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the acute power shortage in Calcutta for the last several years the Union Government have started negotiations with the Government of Bhutan requesting the latter to part with its surplus energy to India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI BABANRAO DHAKNE): (a) and (b). In terms of an agreement signed between India and Bhutan in 1974, India is importing energy, surplus to the requirements of Bhutan, from their Chukha Hydroelectric Project Stage. I. The surplus energy available from Bhutan is distributed among various States in the Eastern Region of India, including West Bengal. A Memorandum of Understanding has recently been signed between Government of India and the Royal Government of Bhutan for taking up investigations for setting up Chukha Hydroelectric Project Stage-II and III in Bhutan. Surplus power from these projects, when commissioned, would also be imported to meet the requirements of the Eastern Region.

Tunnel in Konkan Railway

758. DR. DAULATRAO SONUJI AHER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a seven kilometre tunnel will be constructed in the proposed Konkan Railway Project; and

(b) if so, where it will be located and what will be its estimated cost?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). The

length of the proposed tunnel is 6.44 kms. It will be located between Ukshi and Karbudi stations, 15 kms. Northeast of Ratnagiri town on Ratnagiri-Dasgaon section of the Konkan Railway Line. The estimated cost of the construction of the tunnel is Rs. 12 crores.

Setting up of power plants in Rajasthan

759. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) has been accorded permission to set up power plant in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the estimated cost and capacity of the proposed power plant; and

(c) the location of the plant and by when the plant is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI KALYAN SINGH KALVI): (a) A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Government of Rajasthan and NLC in this regard.

(b) A power plant of 2x120 MW capacity at an estimated cost of Rs. 585.73 crores is proposed to be set up.

(c) The power station will be set up at Barsingsar village in Bikaner District of Rajasthan. The power station will be commissioned in 56 months.

Railway commuter service in Bombay

760. PROF. RAM GANESH KAPSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Save Bombay Committee, Bombay has sent him two representations dated 5 March, 1990 and 12 March, 1990 regarding Railway Commuter Service