

[8 March, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

Generation capacity

1471. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the total installed generating capacity requirement by the end of the year 2001—2002 is estimated at 130763 MW;

(b) whether it is also a fact that with the present generating capacity at 89690 MW, a capacity of about 40,000 MW of electricity needs to be installed in the next two to three years; and

(c) if so, how Government plan to meet this requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The draft Energy Policy Committee Report has estimated that in the 'Business as Usual' (BAU) scenario, an installed capacity of about 1,18,913 MW would be required by 2001—02. The report of the Committee is to be finalized shortly.

(b) The installed capacity as on January, 2000 is about 96,000 MW which means that about 22,913 MW needs to be added in the next two years or so.

(c) The Government has opened up the power sector for private sector participation since 1991. Over the years a number of measures have been taken to promote investments into the power sector which include streamlining of procedures, raising the limit of foreign equity delegation of administrative powers to the States, the enactment of the Electricity Laws (Amendment) Act, 1998, the introduction of the revised mega power policy etc. The current focus of the Government is on reforms and restructuring of the SEBs which would improve the financial position of the SEBs and ultimately enable inflow of capital for power projects.