

Reallocation of Naphtha to Gujarat

881. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that proposal of the Gujarat Government for reallocation of Naphtha is under active consideration of the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the approximate time by which decision would be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) A proposal from the Government of Gujarat for re-allocation of Naphtha to 3 power projects having a total capacity of 289.5 MW has been received by Government of India (Ministry of Power). The matter is under consideration along with similar requests received for projects in some of the other States.

Power Project at Visakhapatnam

882. SHRI V.N. GADGIL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the terms and conditions of the power project at Visakhapatnam; and

(b) the extent of the involvement of Hindujas in the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The 1040 MW Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Project in Andhra Pradesh being promoted by M/s Hinduja National Power Corporation Limited (HNPCCL) has been accorded techno-economic clearance of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) on July 25, 1996 at an estimated completed cost of US \$ 943.75 million + Rs. 1324.993 crores. This is an MoU route project which will be based on domestic coal as fuel and terms of purchase of power will be governed by Government of India's Tariff Notification dated 30.3.1992 and Power Purchase Agreement between promoters and Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board. Project has received counter guarantee of Government of India on 19.8.1998.

(b) HNPCL is a joint venture of M/s. Ashok Leyland Limited of Hinduja Group and National Power Plc of United Kingdom. Equity component of the promoter as approved by CEA is foreign equity of US \$ 354.35 million + domestic equity of Rs. 9.372 crores.

Integrated Barren Land Development Scheme

883. SHRI ANANTRAY DEV SHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the objective of Integrated Barren Land Development Scheme (IBLDS) and the aspects including in the Scheme;

(b) the details of targets fixed and achieved under the Scheme during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the assistance provided by Government to Gujarat for the purpose; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to make the scheme successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The Department of Land Resources is implementing an Integrated Wastelands Development Project (IWDP) Scheme. The main objective of this Scheme is to develop non-forest wastelands under the Guidelines for Watershed Development. The main aspect of the Scheme is to involve the community in development of wastelands through low cost locally available technology.

(b) State-wise targets are not fixed under Integrated Wastelands Development Project (IWDP) Scheme. Under this Scheme, project proposals for development of wastelands are formulated by the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs)/Zilla Parishads/Research Institutes /Agricultural Universities and sanctioned to them on project to project basis. During the last three years i.e. 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99, an amount of Rs. 166.65 crores was released to various Agencies/Institutes for the development of 4,16,625 hectares of wastelands.

(c) An amount of Rs. 15.34 crores was released for the development of 38,350 hectares of wastelands in different districts of Gujarat State during the last three years.