

back station at Sasaram to connect the Eastern and Northern power regions of the country. However, there has been difference of opinion in the matter of sharing of the transmission charges. The matter is being resolved through discussions with the concerned States.

(c) and (d) The various power regions of the country are to be inter-connected in order to form a National Grid. A 500 MW HVDC back to back link at Vindhyachal already exists connecting the Northern and Western regions. A 1000 MW HVDC back to back link at Chandrapur connecting Western and Southern regions has also been established. A 500 MW HVDC back to back project at vizag connecting the Southern and Eastern regions is under execution and is expected to be completed by March, 1999. A 400 KW D/C line between Bongaigaon and Malda which would connect the Eastern and North Eastern regions is also being executed and is expected to be commissioned by March, 1998. Also, as stated in reply to part (b) a 500 MW HVDC back to back project at Sasaram has been planned to connect the Eastern and Northern regions. This project is expected to be commissioned by 2000-2001. With this, the framework of the National Grid would be completed.

Power Transmission Projects

1344. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the power transmission projects being offered to private sector for development; and

(b) who will grant transmission licence for inter-state scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) An enabling legal

framework is necessary for transmission projects to be undertaken as a distinct activity by private companies not necessarily in conjunction with generation and distribution. The Electricity Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1997 was, therefore, introduced in the last session of Parliament. The Bill has been referred to the Standing Committee on Energy for their consideration.

(b) The Electricity Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1997, provides that the Central Government or any authority notified by it may grant transmission licence in respect of inter-state transmission of energy and State Government or any authority notified by it may grant transmission licence in respect of interstate transmission of energy.

Setting up of new Generation Capacity

1345. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to permit the public/state sector to set up new generation capacity during the current plan period;

(b) if so, the reason for change in Policy; and

(c) the funds earmarked/allocated by Central Government for such Public Sector generation projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) New generation capacities are proposed to be set up in Central, State and Private Sectors during the Ninth Plan which is under finalisation in Planning Commission. Government policy is to encourage private sector participation and investment in the energy sector. Projects will be set up in the Central and State sectors, keeping in

view the resources available with the Government.

Capacity Addition by the Private Sector

1346. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the target and actual generation capacity added by the private sector during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) the reason for shortfall, if any; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to overcome the deficit in the current plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) The Eighth Plan envisaged a capacity addition of 2810 MW in the private sector. Against this the actual achievement was 1430.4 MW.

(b) The shortfall in capacity addition was mainly due to inclusion of certain projects which could not be taken up for implementation due to various factors including non-finalisation of project developer, non-availability of commercial viable fuel source, non-availability of various clearances and financing tie-ups. etc.

(c) To overcome the deficit in the current plan period, steps have been taken to facilitate implementation of new projects expeditiously, such as streamlining of the clearance process, delegation of powers to the States to clear projects at the State level costing upto Rs. 1000 crores on competitive bidding. Tariff Notification, Policy guidelines for obtaining CEA clearances and procedures for Competitive Bidding have been issued. The Central Electricity Authority has accorded its techno-economic clearance to 26 private power projects, with a capacity of 14,520 MW.

गुजरात में विद्युत संयंत्रों का आधुनिकीकरण

1347. श्री गोपालसिंह जी. सोलंकी : क्या विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या विद्युत संयंत्रों का आधुनिकीकरण किए जाने हेतु सरकार द्वारा प्रायोजित कोई योजना है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या गुजरात सरकार ने 1991 से इस योजना को क्रियान्वित किया था;

(घ) क्या इस योजना पर व्यय हुई कुल राशि का 50 प्रतिशत भाग केन्द्र सरकार ने प्रदान किया था; और

(ड.) यदि नहीं तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री तथा विद्युत मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री योगिन्द्र कुमार भगत राम अलद्य) : (क) और (ख) केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा ताप विद्युत स्टेशनों का नवीकरण और आधुनिकीकरण कार्यक्रम वर्ष 1984 में आरम्भ किया गया था, इसमें 13570.5 मेगावाट की अधिष्ठापित क्षमता के लिए 163 विद्युत उत्पादन यूनिटों की 34 विद्युत स्टेशनों को सम्मिलित किए जाने की परिकल्पना की गई है, इस नवीकरण एवं आधुनिकीकरण कार्यक्रम की अनुमोदित लागत 1165 करोड़ रुपये थी जिसमें से 423.34 करोड़ रुपये राज्यों को केन्द्रीय ऋण सहायता के रूप में थी।

(ग), (घ) और (ड.) जी, हां। गुजरात ने इस स्कीम के अंतर्गत 3 परियोजनाओं का नवीकरण कार्य किया है, केन्द्र सरकार ने केन्द्रीय ऋण सहायता के रूप में कुल लागत का लगभग 39% राशि प्रदान की थी।

Setting up of National Power Grid

1348. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to set up a National Power Grid;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this direction;

(c) what is the total additional capacity created during Eighth Plan and what was envisaged;