

(c) by when this plant is likely to be commissioned; and

(d) whether Government have approved other projects for harnessing energy from sea waves; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) As per the findings of the Techno-economic Feasibility Report prepared by the Central Electricity Authority, the Tidal Power Project in the Gulf of Kutch near Kandla is feasible. The project envisages an installation of 900 MW, comprising 36 units of 25 MW each.

(b) The project is expected to generate 1690 million units annually. The cost of generation has been estimated as 90 paise/unit which is comparable with the conventional gas based and coal based 210 MW load centre located units.

(c) The project can be implemented after the investment decision and detailing of the design and construction features.

(d) Work to harness energy from sea waves, as distinct from tidal energy, is still at an experimental stage. The Deptt. of Ocean Development and the Deptt. of Non-conventional Energy Sources have sponsored experimental projects with a view to developing the technique for harnessing wave energy for generation of Power.

Import of crystalline silicon technology

£3567. **SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:**

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that negotiations are going on for the collaborative venture

£Previously Unstarred Question
2826, transferred from the 18th August, 1988.

involving a British Company for the supply of Crystalline Silicon technology to India;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard, and

(c) whether it is a fact that some Government undertakings have opposed the import of this technology as this technology is available in India and if so, what are the details in this regard and what are the names of undertakings which have been consulted and have opposed for such imports?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) No import of crystalline silicon technology for the manufacture of solar cells is involved in the venture between an Indian Company and a British Company which was considered recently by the Project Approval Board, Ministry of Industry.

(c) The views of all public sector units involved in the field are taken into account in such cases.

Separate port for import of polymers

£3568. **SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:**

SHRI E. BALANANDAN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of polymers to meet their present requirements due to inadequate port facilities;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to construct a separate port with modern facilities, on the Western Coast, for importing polymers; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) To handle petrochemicals raw material, Government is considering to set up the

£Previously Unstarred Question
2559, transferred from the 17th August, 1988.

terminal facilities on the Western Coast of the country.

However, the proposal is at preliminary stage of formulation.

Projects and Investigation Reports by the CIL

3569. DR. R. K. PODDAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many project reports and investigation reports have been prepared by GL and its subsidiaries so far;

(b) how many out of them have been submitted to the CSIR Laboratories for a proval and at what cost in relation to the total amount spent under this head; and

(c) whether CIL and its subsidiaries will continue with this system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) In Central Mine Planning and Design Institute, about 30 to 35 Geological Reports are prepared every year. About 75 to 80 exploration blocks are under investigation at any point of time all the year round. 13 investigations for washeries and beneficiations of coal have been carried out since 1985-86. In addition 21 S and T projects for washing and beneficiations of coal have been identified out of which 7 have been completed, 12 are in hand and 2 more are being taken-up.

(b) Out of 21 S&T Projects and 13 investigations, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research Laboratories have been associated with 8 projects and 3 investigations. During 1987-88 about 39000 meters of coal cores have been generated out of which 14800 meters of coal core have been given to Central Fuel Research Institute and other governmental agencies for quality assessment. Total amount paid to the investigation agencies was Rs. 20.44 lakhs during 1987-88 out of which Rs. 8.20 lakhs have been paid to CSIR Laboratories and other governmental agencies.

(c) Yes Sir. The system of offloading coal core testing to CSIR laboratories will continue as they have the necessary facilities.

Absorption of land custees in service of NTPC

3570. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's policy in regard to appointment of land custees by National Thermal Power Corporation;

(b) whether such land custees are being provided with training for absorption in technical jobs;

(c) what is the number of land custees so far absorbed by NTPC in their various projects, State-wise; and

(d) what is the number of land custees still awaiting absorption, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALP-NATH RAI): (a) The policy formulated by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) in regard to appointment of land custees lays down specific priority groups based on the extent of land acquired. The land custees are extended preference in employment in the respective projects subject to the availability of vacancies and their suitability.

(b) The NTPC does not organise any exclusive technical training for the land custees.

(c) The number of land custees employed in the NTPC, Statewise, are as under:—

State	No.
[i] Andhra Pradesh	236
[ii] Bihar	48
[iii] Madhya Pradesh	464
[iv] Uttar Pradesh	522
[v] West Bengal	315