

size, steam parameters, coal quality, site ambient conditions etc. There is a large variation in the heat rate offered by various suppliers for different projects.

(c) As per the Electricity Act, 2003 generating companies are free to set up thermal power stations and no clearance from CEA/Ministry of Power is required for the thermal stations. Apart from the heat rate and efficiency, number of other considerations influence the purchase decision like prices offered, delivery schedule.

#### **Discussion in the Conference of State Power Ministers**

988. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked States to operationalise open access, as laid down in the Electricity Act, 2003 and the National Electricity Policy;

(b) whether a conference of State Power Ministers was held at New Delhi, recently;

(c) if so, the details of discussions held in the conference and outcome thereof;

(d) whether Government has asked States to increase power generation capacity and also to check transmission and distribution losses; and

(e) if so, the incentives Government proposes to give to States to increase power generation capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Conference of Power Ministers of States was held on 23rd June, 2009 at New Delhi.

(c) Issues relating to Capacity Addition, Open Access, Rural Electrification and Re-structured Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme were discussed in detail during the Conference and a Resolution was adopted at the end of the Conference.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No specific incentive was announced for the states to increase Power Generation capacity during the Conference held on 23.06.2009.

#### **World Bank Loan for power plants**

989. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has recently sanctioned a loan to India in the shape of assistance, for renovation and modernization of power plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which such loan assistance from World Bank would be utilized; and

(d) to what extent the renovation and modernization of various power plants is likely to be completed and to what extent power generation capacity would be enhanced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The World Bank, on 18th June, 2009, have approved a loan of USD 180 Million and a Global Environment Facility (GEF) grant equivalent to USD 45.4 million for the rehabilitation of the Coal Fired Stations in India, the details of which are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of Power Stations/State	Unit No.	Capacity (MW) Before R&M	Likely capacity (MW) Post R&M	Likely enhancement in the capacity (MW)	Commissioning schedule
1.	Bandel TPS West Bengal	5	210	215	5	2013-14
2.	Koradi TPS Maharashtra	6	210	214	4	2013-14
3.	Panipat TPS Haryana	3	110	115	5	2014-15
4.	Panipat TPS Haryana	4	110	115	5	2014-15
TOTAL :			640	659	19	

Government of India is the borrower of the World Bank loan and the GEF grant. The funds will be made available to power utilities through their respective state governments on a back to back basis.

#### Rural Electrification in Rajasthan

†990.SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajasthan Government has sent schemes for approval to provide electricity to domestic consumers of rural areas under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana;

(b) if so, the number thereof, the number of schemes approved out of them and the schemes which are still pending;

(c) the reasons for not granting approval to pending schemes; and

(d) by when the pending schemes would be approved?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi