

Investment in power projects in Rajasthan

2059. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have made any investment in power projects in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of such investment during the last three years and as on date, project-wise;

(c) the share of State Government and Central Government in this regard, project-wise; and

(d) the present status of operation of these power projects and the quantity of power production, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) A Central Sector lignite based thermal based power projects comprising two units of 125 MW each is under implementation by Neyveli Lignite Corporation at Birsingsar with estimated cost of about Rs. 1,114 crores. The units are scheduled for commissioning in June, 2008 and October, 2008 respectively. In the last three years, about 106 crores have been spent.

In addition, two units of Rajasthan Atomic Power of 220 MW each of Nuclear Power Corporation of India are under construction with an estimated cost of Rs. 3,072 crore. In the last three years Rs. 1011 crore have been spent. These units are scheduled to be fully operational by 2007-08.

Private participation in hydro-electric projects

†2060. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have invited participation of private companies in the hydro-electric projects; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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(b) the areas in which Government have entrusted the work to private companies and the facilities provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) No, Sir, No specific bids have been invited by the Central Government for participation of private companies in development of hydro electric projects. However, as a policy, greater participation by private companies in development of hydro electric projects is being encouraged.

(b) The Electricity Act, 2003 provides that any generating company including private companies may establish, operate and maintain a generating station without obtaining a licence under the Act if it complies with the technical standards relating to connectivity with the grid. However, concurrence of Central Electricity Authority is required for Hydro Power Schemes estimated to involve capital expenditure exceeding such sum as may be fixed by the Central Government, from time to time, by notification. Transmission, distribution and trading of electricity are licensed activities, the licence for which is given by the appropriate Electricity Regulatory Commission. Any private company can also apply for licence for any of these activities to the appropriate Electricity Regulatory Commission.

Electrification of villages in Bihar

2061. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether vast majority of rural population still has no access to electricity and is dependent on kerosene lamps and lanterns;

(b) if so, schemes, formulated for electrification of 25,000 remote villages/hamlets; and

(c) the details of 273 remote villages of Bihar identified for electrification under remote village electrification programme, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) As per the Office Memorandum dated 18th March, 2005, issued by Ministry of Power for Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana, out of 13.8 crore rural house holds in the country, around 7.8 crore rural house holds (as per 2001 census) do not have access to electricity and may