

State Electricity Boards and BHEL and the poor quality of coal supplied to thermal power stations are some of the factors behind the poor performance of the country's power stations; and

(b) if so, what remedial measures have been taken by Government to ensure efficient performance of the power stations in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) The performance of thermal power stations in the country which was showing deteriorating trend during the last few years has been reversed. Now they are improving. In 1979-80 PLF was 44.7. In 1981-82 it has gone up to 46.8. Some of the reasons for poor performance of thermal power plants are:

(i) deficiencies in lay out, plant and equipment, system engineering etc.

(ii) Unduly long time being taken for plant maintenance as well as on forced outages of the equipment,

(iii) Inadequate availability of spare parts;

(iv) comparatively longer stabilisation period of the Viewly commissioned BHEL units;

(v) Non-availability of trained operating and monitoring personnel;

(vi) Poor quality of coal supplies etc.

(b) In order to improve capacity utilisation of thermal power plants in the country, the following measures have been taken;

(i) Assistance to State Electricity Boards to prepare and undertake plant betterment programme;

(ii) Adoption of preventive maintenance techniques;

(iii) Arranging supply of spare parts from indigenous and foreign sources;

(iv) Arranging adequate quantity Mid quality of coal;

(v) Setting up of task forces for 200/210 MW units and 110/120 MW units to identify /deficiencies and prepare programme for achieving early stabilisation; and

(vi) training of engineers and operation and maintenance personnel for thermal power plants.

As a result of the measures taken so far, the capacity utilisation of thermal power plants has increased to about 47 per cent during the year 1981-82.

Import of power equipment

27. SHRI VITHTHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Gujarat has recently requested the Central Government to permit import of power generating sets from Japan to meet its requirement of electricity; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not permitting Government of Gujarat to import Power generating sets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) No such request has been received recently from Government of Gujarat. However, in June, 1980, Gujarat Electricity Board had submitted a proposal to the Empowered Committee under the Department of Heavy Industry for import of generating equipment required for the Wanakbori Extension Project. The proposal was for import from Japan against global tenders invited by

Gujarat Electricity Board. The Empowered Committee did not permit the import since BHEL were in a position to supply the necessary equipment within the prescribed time frame.

दामोदर नदी में कोयला परिष्करणियों से गंदा पानी गिराया जाना

28. श्री हुक्मदेव नारायण यादव : क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने को कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बिहार की सभी कोयला परिष्करणियों (वाशरीज) का गंदा पानी दामोदर नदी में गिराया जाता है जिससे उस नदी का पानी प्रदूषित हो जाता है और मानव तथा जानवरों के उपयोग लायक नहीं रहता है ; और

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि यह सब प्रदूषण संबंधी कानून के विरुद्ध किया जा रहा है और ऐसा करने से उस पहाड़ी क्षेत्र में जल संकट पैदा कर दिया गया है जहां पर कि यह नदी ही उस क्षेत्र के लोगों के लिये पानी की सप्लाई का एकमात्र स्रोत है ?

ऊर्जा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विक्रम महाजन) : (क) और (ख) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

Studies made for alternative sources of energy

29. SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA:
SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO
DHABE:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the studies made by Government for

finding out alternative sources of energy to coal and atomic power; and

(b) what steps are being taken or proposed to be taken by Government for conservation of coal and avoid wastage in coal mines under jurisdiction of the Coal India Limited and its subsidiary companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Under the Coal Mines (Conservation & Development) Act, 1974, a Coal Conservation and Development Advisory Committee has been set up to advise the Government on the administration of the above Act and to disburse financial assistance to the Coal Producers for undertaking conservation measures and other activities. Fire-fighting projects have also been taken up to save the valuable coal reserves.

In addition to above, experiments on new technologies such as fluidised bed boiler, oil agglomeration of coal, smokeless coal pellets etc. are also being undertaken to ensure more efficient use of coal reserves. Improved methods of mining like longwall mining are being gradually introduced for better exploitation of reserves.

Financial position of DESU

30. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to investigate into the financial debts of Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking as indicated in the 82nd Report of the Public Accounts Committee, the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking owes Rs. 34.88 crores to the Badarpur Thermal Power Station and only a sum of Rs. 2 crores is being paid by DESU to the Badarpur Thermal power Station against the electricity worth