

Mega Power Project in Orissa

***119. SHRI B.J. PANDA:**

MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Finance Corporation proposes to set-up 4,000 MW ultra mega power project in Orissa at a cost of Rs. 15,000 Crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time-frame within which the project would be set-up and completed?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Power through Power Finance Corporation has taken an initiative for facilitating the development of a few 4,000 MW Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPP) under tariff based competitive bidding route envisaged under Section 63 of the Electricity Act, 2003 through project specific shell companies. Central Electricity Authority has identified potential pit head sites in Orissa for development of Ultra Mega Projects.

(c) It is estimated that the first unit would be completed in four to five years from the date of selected bidder being in position. Other units will be completed after a time interval of 6-8 months depending on unit size.

UNICEF report on education in Bihar

***120. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a UNICEF report captioned "State of the world's children, 2006" wherein it has been mentioned that the biggest problem with Bihar has been non-utilization of Central funds and 31 lakh children have never gone to school in the State;

(b) whether Government have studied the report; and

(c) the follow-up action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) The UNICEF report captioned "State of the World's children 2006" is an annual publication commenting on status of the World's children, particularly with respect to the internationally notified Millennium Development Goals. It gives data on respective countries. Government of India is addressing the educational requirements of children in the 6-14 years age group through several Centrally-sponsored programmes like the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and the Mid Day Meal Scheme.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Funds for economic development of NER

555. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds release/utilised under the various schemes and programmes implemented by this Ministry for economic development of the North-Eastern Region during the last three years, year-wise, State-wise and Scheme-wise; and

(b) the details and current status of proposals pertaining to NER pending with Government?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) (i) The details of funds released by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region during the last three years are as follows:

(Rs. in crore)			
Plan Scheme	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR)	550.00	650.00	679.17
North Eastern Council (NEC)	499.86	498.72	458.54
North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Lt. (NEDFI)	15.40	24.50	22.33
Advocacy & Publicity	2.00	1.92	4.71
Capacity Building	2.00	2.70	7.92
Sikkim Mining Corporation (SMC)	0.50	0.50	0.00
TOTAL:	1069.76	1178.34	1172.67