

(c) As the National Thermal Power Corporation is not a manufacturing organisation, the maintenance of delivery schedule by it does not arise. It is a fact that in some cases it has not been possible for M/s. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. to maintain the delivery schedules for supply of equipment.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Electricity from Sea-tidal waves**

†1261. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received letters, memorandum and representations and reports from the people of Bhavnagar and Gujarat regarding possibilities for generating electricity from the sea-tidal waves from "Sonaraz" near the sea ports of Gujarat;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken to develop the sites for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN):

(a) to (c) The Government has been receiving suggestions about the need for developing tidal power from the Government of Gujarat.

Preliminary studies had been carried out in the Central Water & Power Commission during 1966 in consultation with the Gujarat authorities for generation of power from tidal waves near Bhavnagar in the Gulf of Cambay utilising the Sonarai creek to form a basin. These studies indicated that a structure of approximately 2500 ft. long at its crest (excluding connecting dykes) if constructed across the mouth of

the Sonarai creek with FRL at plus 33 ft. above the base level would provide a basin with a surge capacity of 1000 million cubic feet. Based on single basin operation, it was estimated that it would be possible to generate about 75 Gwh annually with an installation of 30 MW. The generation would vary from a maximum of 3.4 lakhs Kwh per day to a minimum of .52 lakhs per day, the duration of power generation varying from 6 hrs. during the high tides to one hour during low tides, the average being about 3.7 hrs. per cycle. In view of the limited sub-surface data, no detailed estimates of cost were possible, but rough assessments indicated that the cost of the works would be out of proportion compared to the benefits indicated above.

An UNDP Expert had also visited the country in 1975 to advise on the possibility of development of tidal power. The Gulfs of Kutch and Cambay along the West Coast and the Sunderbans area in West Bengal along the East Coast have been identified as the possible areas where the tidal range is fairly high and where tidal power could be developed.

The main problems with tidal energy relates to the high initial cost, the variable nature of the output and the technical and economical problems involved in firming up this power. To finalise the schemes of development and establish their technical feasibility and economic justification, detailed studies and investigations are required. Investigation and formulation of schemes for tidal power development requires an inter-disciplinary approach involving participation by several organisations. A Coordination Committee was set up in May, 1979 under the Chairmanship of the Chairman, Central Electricity Authority to consider further course of action and formulate programme of investigation and studies relating to tidal power development in the country.

†Previously Unstarred Question 1116 transferred from the 27th June, 1980.

The Committee has since submitted a report for carrying out investigations at an estimated cost of Rs. 207.11 lakhs exclusive of the foreign exchange component of the order of US \$200,000 spread over for a period of 5 years. The committee has recommended (i) short term field investigations, (ii) laboratory studies, and (iii) long term field investigations.

The investigations have not yet been taken up.

#### Import of coal

1262. SHRI U. R. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to import coal from abroad; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The question of import of coking coal for the integrated steel plants during the year 1980-81 is under consideration of the Department of Steel.

#### Investigation into the affairs of M/s. Bird and Company Limited

1263. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:  
SHRI SYED  
SHAHEDULLAH:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1753 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th March, 1979 and state:

(a) whether examination of the reply of the Central Bureau of Investigation on the report of the Affairs of M/s. Bird and Company has been completed;

(b) if so, what follow up action has been taken against Shri Pran Prasad and Shri K. L. Dua;

(c) if reply to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons for the delay;

(d) whether Company Law Board, has prosecuted the defaulters and what are the names of persons involved;

(e) what is the result of the prosecution;

(f) whether reports of other companies in which investigations have not been stayed by the High Court have been received, if so, what are the details thereof and the names of companies;

(g) what action has been taken on them;

(h) what steps have been taken to vacate the stay orders in respect to five companies and details thereof; and

(i) what are the results of such steps?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIV SHANKAR):

(a) to (c) The matter is still under consultation with CBI on the issue of further investigation for action to be taken for offences under the IPC. The question of follow up action will arise only after this issue has been settled. The delay is due to the intrinsic legal complications.

(d) and (e) The Registrar of Companies filed complaints under section 629A of the Act read with Section 108(1A)(b)(ii) of the companies Act, 1956 against the company and S/Shri Pran Prasad, K. L. Dua and A. Basu. The persons concerned filed criminal revision petitions before the High Court of Calcutta with Prayer for quashing the above proceedings and for setting aside the order of the Magistrate for execution of the warrant of arrest issued against the accused. The proceedings in the lower court have been stayed by the High Court on or about 26th July, 1979. The matter is pending before the High Court of Calcutta and is being contested. It has not yet come up for hearing.

(f) and (g) Investigation reports in respect of M/s. Kinnison Jute Mills Company Limited and Union