

**Private investment in power transmission sector**

745. SHRI R.C. SINGH:

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the power transmission segment was opened up for private investment in 1998;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that till date very limited responses were received by Government in this segment from private sector;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government had made any enquiry to ascertain the causes therefor;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether Government had taken any step to encourage private investment in this segment; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):  
(a) to (f) Power Transmission segment was opened up for private investment in 1998 through the Electricity Laws (Amendment) Act, 1998. Subsequently, Government of India issued guidelines for private sector participation in transmission sector in January, 2000. These guidelines envisaged two distinct routes for private sector participation in transmission: Joint Venture (JV) Route, wherein the CTU/STU shall own at least 26% equity and the balance shall be contributed by the Joint Venture Partner (JVP) and also by Independent Private Transmission Company (IPTC) Route, wherein 100 per cent equity shall be owned by the private entity. Following schemes are under implementation/process of implementation through JV and IPTC routes:—

**A. JV Route**

- (i) JV with TATA Power Ltd. (POWERLINK Ltd.) for implementing transmission system associated with the Tala Hydro-Electric Project being developed in Bhutan.
- (ii) JV with Torrent Power Ltd. (Torrent Powergrid Co. Ltd.) for implementation of transmission system for evacuation of power from their 1100 MW generation project in Gujarat.
- (iii) JV with Jaiprakash Hydro Power Ltd. (Jaypee Powergrid Ltd.) for implementation of transmission system for evacuation of power from 1000 MW Karcham-Wangtoo HEP in Himachal Pradesh being developed by M/S Jaypee Karcham Hydro Corporation Ltd.

- (iv) JV with Reliance Energy Ltd. (Parbati Koldam Transmission Co. Ltd.) for implementation of transmission system for evacuation of power from proposed Parbati-II and III (800 MW and 520 MW of NHPC) and Koldam HEP (800 MW of NTPC) in Himachal Pradesh.
- (v) JV with Teesta Urja Ltd. (Teesta Valley Power Transmission Ltd.) for implementation of part transmission system for development of pooling station in Sikkim and transfer of power to a new pooling station in north West Bengal/Bihar.
- (vi) JV with ONGC Tripura Power Co. (North East Transmission Company Ltd.) for implementation of evacuation system for 726 MW Pallatana gas based project in Tripura.

**B. IPTC Route**

- (i) Western Region System Strengthening-II-B
- (ii) Western Region System Strengthening-II-C

Government of India issued guidelines for encouraging competition in the development of transmission projects and guidelines for tariff based competitive bidding for transmission services in April, 2006. These guidelines are aimed at facilitating competition in the sector through wider participation in providing transmission services and tariff determination through a process of tariff based bidding. Three (3) schemes are under implementation by the Transmission Service Providers (TSP) selected through the tariff based bidding process and another three(3) schemes are under bidding process. There has been very encouraging response from the private sector for these six schemes so far.

(g) and (h) Several steps have been taken to encourage private investment in transmission during the Eleventh Plan. An Empowered Committee headed by Member, CERC and representatives of Ministry of Power, Central Electricity Authority, Planning Commission, Central Transmission Utility and experts from the Power Sector has been constituted for identifying Inter-State transmission projects for private sector participation. Standard Bid Documents (SBDs), viz., Request for Qualification, Request for Proposal (RfP) and Transmission Service Agreement (TSA) have been issued by the Ministry of Power. Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) have been designated as nodal agencies by the Government for steering the bidding process for the identified transmission schemes.

**Delay in commissioning of UMPPs**

746. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:  
SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to tussle between the Ministries of Coal and Environment and Forests regarding the allocation of Coal Blocks, the Ministry is in precarious condition and commissioning of Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs) is getting delayed;