

(c) the States which have no power project of their own and are fully dependant on outside supply; and

(d) the steps being taken to provide them power plants?

, THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) Information from the State Governments has been sought and will be laid on the Table of the House, on receipt of the same.

Privatization of power plants

†3909. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government now propose to privatize power generation plants after privatizing the power distribution sector in Delhi;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Government are selling power generation plants to multinational companies at throw-away prices and the people involved in this act are making the money?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) There is no proposal with Government of NCT of Delhi to privatize the power generation plants.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, do not arise.

Signing of Framework Protocol with US for Future Gen Power Plants

3910. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have signed a framework protocol with the US to develop power plants not dependant on LNG or emission-free coal;

(b) if so, whether FutureGen project will set up 275 MW plant using coal conversion technology to gasify coal, oxygen and steam to produce hydrogen-rich synthetic gas;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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(c) whether Government have secured participation in the \$950 million FutureGen projects;

(d) if so, the main features of the proposed plants and by when these plants are likely to be undertaken; and

(e) whether Government's contribution will be \$10 million?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (3) Yes, Sir. India has, on 3rd of April 2006, signed a Framework Protocol with USA on cooperation on the FutureGen Project initiated by USA as a public-private partnership. This is a US \$950 million project. India's contribution will be US\$10 Million, payable over a period of five years. The FutureGen Plant is planned to operate as a nominal 275 MW facility that would produce both electricity and hydrogen deploying advanced coal gasification technology integrated with combined cycle electricity generation and capture and sequestration of carbon dioxide. The project aims to design, test and develop first coal-fired emission-free power plant in a time-frame of 10 (Ten) years.

Construction of Ultra Mega Power Projects

3911. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any proposals with Government for construction of Ultra Mega Power Projects;

(b) if so, how many and in which States;

(c) whether it is a fact that the beneficiary States giving an undertaking to privatize the distribution sector in a stipulated time is precondition for awarding the Ultra Mega Power Projects; and

(d) if so, the reaction from the said State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) The Government has taken an initiative for facilitating the development of a few Ultra Mega Power Projects of about 4,000 MW capacity each under tariff based competitive bidding route on the sites to be located in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh.