

- (c) if so, the action taken by Government so far on this proposal; and
- (d) whether the Central Government would take early decision on this proposal, keeping in view the problem of State like Madhya Pradesh which is facing the power shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has already approved allocation of 50% power to Madhya Pradesh from the 2640 MW Gadawara Thermal Power Project being set up by NTPC in the State in phases.

Cost escalation in Sipat Super Thermal Power Project

†907. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sipat Super Thermal Power Project of central sector is under construction in Chhattisgarh and if so, the details of the total costs and generation of capacity thereof;

(b) whether this project is running as per time-schedule and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the States which would get electricity from the said project and the quantum thereof; and

(d) whether there is escalation in its cost due to construction works running behind the fixed time scheduled and if so, the extent to which the cost has been increased and by when this project would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The approved cost of Sipat Super Thermal Power Project, Stage-I (3x660 MW) of NTPC is Rs.8323.39 crores.

(b) The first unit of Stage-I of Sipat Super Thermal Power Project (3x660 MW) in Chhattisgarh was scheduled to be commissioned in April, 2008 and subsequent two units were expected to be commissioned one after another in gaps of ten months each in between commissioning of each of the units. Construction of the project is delayed since M/s Power Machine of Russia, which was awarded the Turbine Generator works, raised additional claims for compensating price variation beyond contractual limit.

(c) Allocation of power from Sipat Super Thermal Power Project, Stage-II of 2x500 MW (these units have been commissioned in May, 2007 and August, 2008) and Sipat Stage-I is as follows:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl. No.	Name of State/UTs	Allocation (in MW) from Sipat Stage-I	Allocation (in MW) from Sipat Stage-II
1.	Gujarat	540	273.00
2.	Madhya Pradesh	283	192.32
3.	Chhattisgarh	313	158.00
4.	Maharashtra	510	312.78
5.	Goa	20	11.60
6.	Daman and Diu	8	11.77
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	9	40.53
8.	Unallocated	297	0.00
Total		1980	1000

(d) The expenditure incurred on Sipat Super Thermal Power Project, Stage-I till June, 2011 is ₹232.15 crores as against the approved cost of ₹323.39 crores. Escalation of cost, if any, can be accounted for only after the completion of project. Consequent to resolution of the issues with M/s Power Machine in October, 2009, work on the project has been on progress. One unit of 660 MW has already been commissioned in June, 2011. The remaining two units are envisaged to be commissioned during the current financial year.

Impact of coal exploration policies on power sector

908. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that Indonesia and Australia is going to change the coal exploration policies;
- (b) if so, what would be its impact on Indian power sector; and
- (c) the steps Government proposes to take for providing coal to power companies in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL) : (a) This pertains to future policy changes of the foreign Government, namely, Indonesia and Australia and no information is available in this regard.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply at (a) above.

(c) Following steps have been taken to meet the coal requirement of power utilities in the country: