

extraordinary circumstances. (*e.g.* threat to security of State, public order, natural calamity etc.) and is not meant to restrict open access.

The Ministry of Power has filed SLP against the Karnataka High Court judgment upholding the Orders issued by the State Government of Karnataka under section 11 of the Act restricting open access. The matter is *sub-judice*.

Closure of NTPC units due to environmental issues

2911. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that NTPC had to shut down many units in the country on the order of local authorities due to violation of pollution control guidelines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by NTPC to revive the closed units; and
- (d) why NTPC has failed to adhere to the norms prescribed for pollution control?

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

(b) Orissa State Pollution Control Board (OSPCB) served closure notice on all the 4 units of the Talcher Super Thermal Power Station (TSTPS) Stage-II at Kaniha in Orissa due to issues relating to environment and ash management.

(c) Following the receipt of closure notice, NTPC took up with OSPCB and the Government of Orissa for revocation of notice. The closure notice was put on abeyance. Generation and supply of power resumed from 13.07.2011. An action plan comprising corrective measures is being implemented by NTPC and monitored by OSPCB.

(d) NTPC has been adhering to all the environmental/pollution control norms existing at the time of commissioning of the various stages. OSPCB, during various inspections/visits to the power plant over the years, has suggested various actions relating to environmental/pollution control norms. Some of these suggestions are under various stages of implementation by NTPC.

New power projects

†2912. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of proposals received for the establishment of power projects in States during 2011;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.