

Allocation of power projects to small companies

2893. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that some travel companies have been allocated power projects in Arunachal Pradesh, which include newly formed companies with a small capital of rupees one lakh getting projects worth Rs.400 crores;
- (b) the present estimate of the completion of Loktak project in Manipur; and
- (c) the original estimate and the status of work, as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) Two projects namely Papum hydroelectric project (15 MW) and Poma hydroelectric project (12 MW) have been allotted by the Government of Arunachal Pradesh to M/s Patel Tours and Travels Private Limited on 12.12.2008. The State Government has informed that no projects worth Rs.400.00 crores has been allotted to any newly formed companies having small capital of Rs.1.00 lakh.

(b) and (c) Techno Economic Clearance (TEC) for the Loktak Downstream Hydro Electric project (66 MW) was accorded on 15.11.2006 at an estimated cost of Rs.867.77 crore at October, 2006 price level subject to certain conditions. Estimate of the Loktak Downstream Hydro Electric project (66 MW) in Manipur is yet to be revised/updated. Present status of work is given in statement.

Statement

Present status of works of Loktak Downstream Hydro Electric project (66 MW) in Manipur

- Techno Economic Clearance (TEC) to the Loktak Downstream Hydro Electric project (66 MW) was accorded by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) on 15.11.2006. The present validity of concurrence given by CEA was upto 14.11.2011. For further extension of concurrence, the matter is being pursued by NHPC with CEA.
- PIB, in its meeting held on 23.11.2006, recommended the project to CCEA at a cost of Rs.897.24 crores. (Rs.867.77 crores as recommended by CEA + Rs. 29.47 crores as the amount spent by NHPC on the project till date) subject to certain conditions.
- The project is to be executed on joint venture basis through a Joint Venture Company (JVC) formed in October, 2009 between NHPC and Government of Manipur with a contribution of 74% and 26% respectively.

- The JVC has requested CEA to transfer the concurrence in its favour in May, 2011.
- Regarding Environment Clearance, environmental proposal along with public hearing report has been submitted to Ministry of Environment and Forest (Moef) on 18.07.2011. The first Environmental Appraisal Committee (EAC) meeting was held on 12.11.2011.
- As regards forest clearance, in principle forest clearance has been accorded by Moef on 03.03.11 and follow up action is being taken by Government of Manipur.
- JVC plans to start infrastructural works w.e.f. March, 2012 and major contracts are expected to be awarded by September, 2012.
- Some activities such as construction of access roads by Government of Manipur, detail Topographical survey of the project area by Survey of India etc. are under process.

Funding of power projects

2894. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- whether power project developers are facing scarcity of funds in the power sector;
- whether Government intends to increase the exposure limit of banks to single borrowers for power projects from the current 25 per cent of their capital and reserves, in view of such scarcity;
- whether this increase would be applicable to renewable energy projects also; and
- if so, the details thereof, including priority to renewable energy projects, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) Ministry of Power has not received any report regarding power project developers facing scarcity of funds in the power sector.

(b) A proposal to increase the exposure limits of banks for power sector companies by 5% over the existing limits was under consideration. Department of Financial Services has indicated that