environmental concern. At the time of stop notice from MoEF, 75% Civil and 40% Electro-Mechanical works were completed. A cumulative expenditure of Rs. 3,328/-Crores has been incurred on project by March, 2012.

(b) to (d) The project lies in the close vicinity of Dhari Devi Temple, which is coming under the submergence in the reservoir after dam construction. Since, the temple carries great religious importance, the State Government approved to uplift the level of the temple above that of the water level in the reservoir.

Mega power project in Uttar Pradesh

 $\dagger 2455$. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the standards fixed for approving mega power projects;
- (b) whether it is a fact that not even a single mega power project has been announced for Uttar Pradesh despite the situation being conducive in the State, as per the standards fixed in this regard; and
 - (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) The mega power project policy is as follows:

- (i) the power projects with the following threshold capacity shall be eligible for the benefit of mega power policy:
 - a. A thermal power plant of capacity 1000 MW or more; or
 - A thermal power plant of capacity of 700 MW or more located in the States of J & K, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura or
 - c. A hydel power plant of capacity of 500 MW or more
 - d. A hydel power plant of a capacity of 350 MW or more, located in the States of J & K, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura;
- (ii) Goods required for setting up a mega power project, would qualify for the fiscal benefits after it is certified that (i) the power purchasing States

[†]Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

have constituted the Regulatory Commissions with full powers to fix tariffs) and (ii) power purchasing states shall undertake to carry out distribution reforms as laid down by Ministry of Power.

(iii) Mega Power Projects would be required to tie up power supply to the distribution companies/utilities through long term PPA(s) in accordance with the National Electricity Policy 2005 and Tariff Policy 2006, as amended from time to time, of Government of India.

However, in view of the Government's decision to uniformly levy customs duty, countervailing duty and special additional duty to the imported equipments of all categories of Power generation projects, *viz.*, Mega Power Projects (including UMPPs) and non-Mega Power Projects, the benefits of mega power policy for new projects has become inapplicable with effect from 19.07.2012.

(b) and (c) The list of power projects in Uttar Pradesh which have been granted mega power/provisional mega power status is given in Statement.

Statement

Projects in Uttar Pradesh certified mega status

Sl.No.	Project	Capacity (MW)
1.	Rihand-II TPP	2x500=1000
2.	Rihand-III TPP	2x500=1000
3.	Tanda-II TPP	2x660=1320
4.	Meja TPP	2x660=1320
5.	Bilhapur STPP	2x660=1320
6.	TPP at Karchhana	2x660= 1320
7.	TPP at Bara	3x660=1980

Projects in Uttar Pradesh certified provisional mega status

1. TPP of Lalitpur Power Generation Company Ltd. 3x660

TPP = Thermal Power Project.

STPP = Super Thermal Power Project.