the number of State Governments which have approached to CERC in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The Tariff Policy notified by the Central Government under the Electricity Act, 2003 on 06.01.2006, inter-alia, provides that the Appropriate Commission shall fix minimum percentage for purchase of electricity from renewable sources taking into account availability of such resources in the region and its impact on retail tariffs. The Act and Policy do not apply any restriction on procurement of power by an obligated entity in excess of the minimum Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) fixed by the Appropriate Commission.

As regard Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) mechanism for promotion of non-conventional energy sources, this mechanism has been evolved jointly by the Electricity Regulatory Commission at the Centre and in the States. To give effect to this framework Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) has issued Regulations on "Terms and Conditions for Recognition and Issuance of Renewable Energy Certificate for Renewable Energy Generation Regulations, 2010". Most of the SERCs have also evolved regulations recognizing REC as a valid instrument for fulfillment of Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO). The framework of REC became operational from March, 2011.

The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) has informed that some issues raised by the State Government of Gujarat pertaining to the purchase of excess renewable energy generated which is more than the renewable purchase obligation (RPO) are under consideration of the Commission and these can be addressed through amendments in the Regulations which is quasi-judicial process.

(c) As per information made available by CERC, only Government of Gujarat has approached CERC in this regard.

Allocation of power from Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant No. 1 to Tamil Nadu

1199. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to State whether the Central Government has agreed to the demand of the State Government of Tamil Nadu to allot the entire power generation of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant No. 1 to that State in view of severe shortage of power supply in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): A request from the Government of Tamil Nadu for allocation of the entire power to be generated from Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant to Tamil Nadu was received in the Ministry of Power. Government of Tamil Nadu was informed that power has already been allocated from Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (2×1000 MW) amongst the beneficiary States/ Union Territories including Tamil Nadu based on the guidelines for allocation of power from Central Sector Generating Stations to the States/UTs.

Hydro power potential in the country

1200. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has estimated the hydel power potential of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) how much of this potential is being exploited by Government; and
- (d) the reasons for not exploiting a large potential of hydel power available in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) According to the reassessment of hydro-electric potential of the country, carried out by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in 1987, the hydro power potential of the country in terms of Installed capacity (IC) is estimated at 148701 MW, out of which 145320 MW of the potential consists of hydro electric schemes having IC above 25 MW. Of the above identified capacity, 34527.8 MW (23.76%) has so far been developed and another 12550 MW (8.64%) is under development. The State-wise status of hydro electric potential development in the country is given in Statement (*See* below).

- (d) The main reasons for slow pace of hydro power development in the country are as under:—
 - (i) Difficult/In-accessible potential sites.
 - (ii) Land Acquisition problem.
 - (iii) Environmental and Forest clearance issues.
 - (iv) Law and Order problem.
 - (v) Inter-State aspects.
 - (vi) Longer gestation period.
 - (vii) Geological Surprises.
 - (viii) Resettlement and Rehabilitation issues.