

Exemption of import duty for power generating equipments

2773. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to establish power plants on large scale in future in view of the increasing demand of power;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the companies have been provided exemption from import duty on equipment needed for the power plants;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the likely impact of such decision on power equipment manufacturing companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Keeping in view the growing demand for power, 88,537 MW of fresh capacity comprising 10,897 MW Hydro, 72,340 MW Thermal and 5,300 MW Nuclear, is planned to be added on all-India basis during the Twelfth Five Year Plan period.

(c) to (e) With effect from 19.07.2012, Custom Duty @5%, CVD @ 12% (as applicable and equal to excise duty on domestic industry from time to time) and SAD @4% will be uniformly applicable to the imported equipments of all categories of new power generation projects, viz., Mega Power Projects (including UMPPs) and non-Mega Power Projects. In view of above, no project is being given Mega status certificate by MoP after 19.07.2012. Earlier, Mega Power Projects had been exempted from import duty on equipments needed for power plants.

National Expressway and Connectivity Corporation

2774. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has commissioned the National Expressway and Connectivity Corporation.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA): (a) No, Sir. Government has not commissioned National Expressway and Connectivity Corporation, Government has 'in-principle' decided to setup National Expressway and Connectivity Corporation (NEXCOR);

(b) Does not arise.

Target for development of highways during 2012-13

2775. SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed any target for development of National Highways for the year 2012-13;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of target achieved till date by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA): (a) to (c) The length of 6,089 km of National Highways (NHs) are targeted to be developed/improved during current financial year 2012-13 under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) and Non- NHDP schemes, out of which, a length of 2967 km have been developed/improved up to October, 2012.

Congestion on DND Expressway

2776. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a lot of road congestion on Delhi-Noida DND expressway and it is getting worse day by day;

(b) if so, what steps Government proposes to take to decongest the sectoral road traffic;

(c) whether there is any plan to construct expressway between Sarita Vihar in Delhi and Noida; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?