

**Sale of assets by private companies to NTPC**

578. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is fact that private companies desire to sell power assets to NTPC;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that some companies are not producing even a single unit since installation of power projects; and
- (d) if so, whether buying such companies would be useful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) NTPC sought Expression of Interest (EOI) from State Electricity Boards/Power Generation Companies, Independent Power Producers (IPP), Power Plant Developers, Captive Power Producers, or their authorized representatives for "Offering their coal based thermal power projects for possible acquisition by NTPC" *vide* EOI dated 21.02.2014. Against this EOI, 34 proposals have been received.

**Hydro power projects in hilly States**

†579. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry would give priority to smaller projects in place of Mega hydro power projects in hilly States of the country;
- (b) if so, the locations where the Ministry has explored the possibility of smaller dams; and
- (c) if not, the details of the alternative plans chalked out by the Ministry to meet the rising demands of power in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Hydro projects are site specific and the choice of site for hydro plants, small or large, depends on many factors such as topography, hydrology, geology of the area etc. Hydro projects having installed capacity up to 25 MW are classified as small hydro projects and hydro projects of 500 MW and above capacity are considered as Mega projects. The capacity of a hydro project is fixed for optimum utilization of

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.