

respectively and States vary significantly in the extent to which they have devolved powers to the Panchayats and Municipalities to plan, implement and monitor schemes for economic development and social justice.

(c) No, Sir.

(e) The implementation of the provisions of Part IX and Part IXA of the Constitution introduced by the 73rd and 74th Constitution Amendments is reviewed by the Government from time to time through studies and discussions with States. States are encouraged to devolve powers (Functions, Functionaries and Finances *i.e.* 3Fs) to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) for sustainable decentralization and inclusive development. The annual Devolution Index Report and the State of Panchayati Raj Reports commissioned by MoPR assesses the policy and legislative framework of the State in respect of Panchayati Raj.

Thermal power plant at Ramagundam

854. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTPC has prepared a feasibility report to set up 4,000 MW thermal power plant within the precincts of Ramagundam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether 1,000 acres of surplus land at Ramagundam is sufficient for power plant;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, how NTPC is planning to move ahead; and

(f) by when the plant is likely to be commissioned and the estimated expenditure involved in its commissioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the Thirteenth Schedule of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, "NTPC shall establish a 4,000 MW of power facility in the successor State of Telangana after establishing necessary coal linkages."

In accordance with the above, NTPC has proposed to establish a new power station with a capacity of 4,000 MW in two stages of 2x800 MW (Stage-I) and 3x800 MW (Stage-II).

Feasibility Report for Stage-I (2x800 MW) has been approved by NTPC on 31.10.2014.

A contiguous land of 230 acres is available within the available space of Ramagundam STPP, to be used for main plant facilities for Stage-I (2x800 MW). However, additional land of about 400 acres for ash dyke and about 50 acres for ash pipe corridor is also required.

For Stage-II (3x800 MW), approx. 1600 acres of additional land is required for plant facilities including ash pond.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. 1000 acres of surplus land is not available at Ramagundam. Regarding land details and planning of NTPC to move ahead, the details have been given above.

(f) Commissioning schedule and expected expenditure can be arrived at only after the investment approval of the project, which is yet to be accorded.

Tax holidays to power companies

855. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether, to speed up power generation in the country, it is proposed to give tax holidays to help companies to come forward;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the current deficit in demand and supply of power in the country; and

(d) what is the time-frame within which it is proposed to bridge this gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Presently Government of India is providing tax holiday to the power companies for a block of 10 years within the first 15 years of operation, under Section 80I (A) of Income Tax Act.

(c) The details of current deficit in demand and supply of power in the country are given below:

Energy				Peak			
April, 2014-October, 2014*				April, 2014-October, 2014*			
Require- ment	Availabil- ity	Surplus/Deficit (-)		Require- ment	Availabil- ity	Surplus/Deficit(-)	
(MU)	(MU)	(MU)	(%)	(MU)	(MU)	(MU)	(%)
643,914	617,662	-26252	-4.1	148,166	141,160	-7,006	-4.7

*Provisional