

However, the approved outlay for power sector for Annual Plan 2003-04 in respect of Kerala is Rs. 619 crore.

(c) to (e) Section 7 of Electricity Act, 2003 has allowed any generating company to establish, operate and maintain Thermal Generating Stations without obtaining license from the Government. However, any generating company intending to set up a hydro generating station shall prepare and submit to the Authority the intended project details for its concurrence. No proposal for setting up of a hydro power project in private sector has been received for approval of the Government.

Revival of BTPS

852. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the Government's policy to revive the 240 MW Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station (BTPS) by renovation and modernization;

(b) whether it is fact that CEA and NTPC had agreed to take over the BTPS but now they are reluctant to do so; and

(c) if so, what is the Government's concern about the fate of the BTPS?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) The responsibility for revival of 240 MW Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station (BTPS) by renovation and modernization lies with the Assam State Electricity Board (ASEB)/ Government of Assam. At present, there is no proposal to takeover the BTPS by Central Electricity Authority or by National Thermal Power Corporation.

System of power distribution in the country

†853. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a grave situation of power distribution is gradually building up in the entire nation;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of power distribution in the country; and

(c) the steps proposed by Government for smooth functioning of power system and its sufficient availability in the country in future?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.