

such as Topographical Survey, Geo-Technical Investigation, Seismic Study, Environmental Impact Assessment Study and Make-Up; Water Study etc., for the project have been taken up by NTPC to examine the Techno-Eco-nomic viability of the project. So far, approximately Rs.21 lakhs have been spent on various site specific studies mentioned above.

Government of Maharashtra (GOM) conveyed its in-principle clearance for availability of 50 Million Cubic Metres of Water for the project from Gosikhurd Irrigation Project and which is expected to be completed within three years, once their fund requirement is tied-up. The confirmation of funding tie-up and time frame for assured water supply is still awaited from Maharashtra Government.

Coal availability from the near by coal mines is required to be confirmed.

Setting up of the project will be taken up depending upon the establishment of Techno-Economic viability of the project.

(c) As reported by Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB), re-gion-wise power demand and supply study is not carried out. The study is carried out for the entire MSEB system. Central Electricity Authority (CEA) have informed that the total peak and energy deficit of power in the State of Maharashtra during the period April-July, 2004 and 3,102 MW (21.3%) and 2818 Million Units (9.5%) respectively.

To meet the power deficits, Maharashtra has proposed a capacity addition of 1950 MW in 10th Plan in the State sector. Maharashtra is also entitled to a share of 1074 MW during Tenth Plan from central projects.

Crimes in" Metropolitan cities

†*423. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take any effective steps to deal with increasing crimes in metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the schemes being formulated for this purpose; and

(c) the details of the steps being taken to implement the schemes?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) Even though 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, the Union Government attaches highest importance to the State Governments giving more focused attention to the prevention and control of crimes within their jurisdiction including metropolitan cities, with special emphasis on prevention of crime against vulnerable sections of the society such as the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Women and Children.

(b) and (c) The Union Government is implementing a scheme for modernization of State police forces which is aimed at equipping the state police forces adequately to enable them to effectively tackle crimes including threats to internal security, terrorism, communal and other disturbances. The scheme is being closely monitored.

Dabhol Power Project

*424. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has submitted a proposal to restart the Dabhol Power Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating power tariff payable by Government of Maharashtra and Central Government organizations to the consumers; and

(c) the financial viability of the project?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

New strategy to tackle Naxalite menace

*425. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are evolving a new strategy following the recent meet of State Chief Secretaries and DGs to tackle the growing menace of naxalism in various States;