

Sl. No.	Name of PSUs		Investment Particulars		Remarks
	Name of Country		Investment the		
		Saudi Arabia	Rs.66.84 lacs		1993: TCIL Saudi Co. Ltd. Set up in Saudi Arabia for bidding for and taking up local orders.
		Nepal (approx.)	Rs.23.35 crores		2001: United Telecom Ltd. Set up in Nepal for operating Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) based basic telecom service in the Kingdom of Nepal.

### **Ban on outdoor use of products**

\*466. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

DR. VIJAY MALLYA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a ban exists as of today, on outdoor use of products (based on international standard IEEE 802.11b) for wireless networking and transfer of data between computers;

(b) if so, whether Government consider any merit in continuing such ban; and

(c) if not, by when, Government plan to lift the ban?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The outdoor use of products based on international standard IEEE 802.11b for wireless networking and transfer of data between computers, is permitted under a licence.

### **Implementation of schemes for reviving projects**

457. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of major projects, above Rs.100 crores, which in terms of the value of investment add up to about Rs.50,000 crores, have been either stalled or deferred indefinitely in various States;

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(b) if so, the details thereof, and the reasons therefor, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken to implement and/or modify the schemes so as to utilise the scarce national resources in a more judicious manner for fruitful results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a)

As on 1.4.2004, 9 projects costing Rs.100 crore and above, with a total investment value of Rs.10,589.45 crore, are unfinished as these have been frozen/dropped after incurring an expenditure of Rs.1,088.78 crore.

(b) The list of these 9 projects with details of the location, cost, amount of expenditure incurred and reasons for freezing or dropping is given in the Statement (See below).

(c) Frozen projects are revived as and when the resource and other problems are dealt with. The specific position for each of these projects is given in the Statement.

#### *Statement*

*Details of the location, cost, amount of expenditure and reasons for freezing or dropping the project alongwith the details of revivals*

1. Barsingar Lignite Mine, Bikaner, Rajasthan (Neyveli Lignite Corporation)

The project to produce lignite with a capacity of 1.7 million tonnes per annum was approved in April 1991 at a cost of Rs.242.31 crore with completion schedule of May, 1995. The project was frozen due to geo-mining/technological problems encountered at the early stages of the project after incurring an expenditure of Rs.24.48 crore. The project has been taken up again and a new proposal is under approval.

2. Barsingar Lignite Thermal Power Station (Neyveli Lignite Corporation)

The project to produce power with a capacity of 2 x 125 Mega Watt was approved in April, 1991 at a cost of Rs.585.73 crore with completion schedule of June, 1996 and was updated in 2002 to Rs. 664.11 crore. The project was linked to the

Barsingar Lignite Mine project and was consequently frozen, after incurring an expenditure of Rs. 5.06 crore. This project has also been taken up again and a new proposal is under approval.

3. Haldia Fertilizer Project, Midnapur, West Bengal (Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation)

The project to produce variety of chemicals and fertilizer with a capacity of 1.51 lakh tonnes per annum was approved in November, 1971 at a cost of Rs. 88.03 crore which was revised to Rs. 281.96 crore in July, 1981 and was further updated to Rs. 520.90 crore in April, 1986 with the completion schedule of October, 1976. However, the project went through several revisions and even after mechanical completion at a cost of Rs. 840 crore the project could not be commissioned due to equipment breakdowns. The project could not give the desired results due to technology failure. A decision of the Cabinet was taken on 18.7.2002 to close the unit.

4. Product Terminal, Central India Refinery, Bina, Madhya Pradesh (Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.)

The project to handle petroleum products to be produced by the Central India Refinery was approved in November, 1997 with completion schedule of November, 2000 at a cost of Rs. 463.40 crore, and was frozen after incurring an expenditure of Rs. 13.69 crore, as the linked Central India Refinery Project was put on hold due to changed demand-supply scenario of petroleum products and conforming with upgraded product quality specifications. The refinery project is under revision to ensure its financial viability.

5. Construction of Petroleum Product Terminal, East India Refinery, Paradeep, Orissa, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL)

The project to handle petroleum products to be produced by East India Refinery was approved in September, 1999 at a cost of Rs. 569 crore with the completion schedule of May, 2003. The project was frozen after incurring an expenditure of Rs. 14.77 crore as the linked Paradeep Refinery

project got delayed due to failure of joint venture between IOCL and Kuwait Petroleum Corporation. Paradeep Refinery project has been revived by IOCL with its own equity for completion by 2008-09. The implementation of the construction of Petroleum Product Terminal would be synchronized with completion schedule of the refinery.

6. Gujarat Refinery Residue Upgradation (Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.)

The residue upgradation was approved in October, 1999 at a cost of Rs. 4392 crore with the completion schedule of January, 2003. The project has been kept in abeyance based on the recommendation of the Investment Review Committee of the Board of Directors of Indian Oil Corporation in July 2000 who have recommended it due to substantial fall in growth rate of demand of petroleum products in the country against the Ninth Plan Projections.

7. Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) Terminal for East India Refinery, Paradeep (Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.)

The project to handle LPG with a capacity of 2 lakh tonnes per annum was approved in October, 1999 at a cost of Rs. 220.81 crore with completion schedule of June, 2003. The project has been frozen after incurring an expenditure of Rs. 38.73 crore up to March 2002. The implementation of the project would be synchronized with Eastern Indian Refinery implementation.

8. Koel Karo Hydro Electric Project, Ranchi, Jharkhand (National Hydro Electric Power Corporation)

The project with a peaking power capacity of 710 Mega Watt was approved originally in June, 1981 at a cost of Rs. 444.67 crore which went up to Rs. 1338.81 crore in November, 1991. The project has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 44.60 crore. The project could not take off due to rehabilitation and resettlement problems, high cost of power and other related problems, and was therefore frozen. The decision to implement the project is yet to be taken.

9. Farakka Super Thermal Power Project Stage-III, Murshidabad, West Bengal

The project to produce power with a capacity of 500 Mega Watt was approved in September, 1989 at a cost of Rs. 603.65 crore with completion schedule of 5 years from the date of placement of orders for main plant equipment. The project was dropped due to (a) absence of funding arrangement for the project; (b) Eastern Region was found to be surplus in power; and (c) no coal project was being exclusively developed for the project.

**Disrupted telephones in Pauri Garhwal**

\*458. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the telephone facilities provided in the villages of District Pauri Garhwal remained totally disrupted for long periods during the months of May and June, 2004 despite consumers having made several complaints for smooth services, particularly in Patti Edwal Syun, Pauri Garhwal;

(b) whether it is a fact that Telephone Exchange situated at Gurduri is completely out of order and telephone lines of this exchange are frequently out of service: and

(c) whether Government have taken any action so that villagers get proper benefits of telephone services and ensure good telephone services for remote areas?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) Sir, telephone facilities provided in the villages of District Pauri Garhwal including Patti Edwal Syun area were working satisfactorily during the months of May and June, 2004.

(b) Performance of Gurduri Telephone exchange and its telephone lines is satisfactory. The fault rate of Gurduri exchange in the months of May and June, 2004 was 11.17% and 16.57% respectively. Most of the faults were cleared within seven days and in some cases it took more time as the telephone lines are scattered and in hilly areas.