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Agreement for Rs. 10.6 billion single combined cycle power plant signed

by Ranil Wijayapala

The biggest ever, single combined cycle power plant in the country will be installed at the Kelanitissa Power Station at a cost of Rs. 10.6 billion to add another 165 MW of thermal power capacity to the National Grid and a 1084 GWh energy out-put annually.

The contract agreement to supply, install and commission this power plant was signed between the Ceylon Electricity Board and Joint Consortium of Marubeni and Alstom recently at the CEB Head office, a CEB spokesman said.

The Government received a Rs. 9,200 million loan (Japanese Yen 13,481 million) from the Government of Japan, through the Japan Banking International Corporation (JBIC). The total cost of the project is estimated at Rs. 10,616 million and the balance cost will be borne by the CEB itself, as the local cost. The spokesman said the work on this project is expected to start in mid June this year. During the first phase, a 110 MW gas turbine will be installed and commissioned by September next year, he added.

The second phase of the project

involves installation and commissioning of a Heat Recovery Steam Generator (HRSG) and a Steam Turbine of 55 MW. The heat recovered by the HRSG from the exhaust gas of the 110 MW Gas Turbine is utilised for the generation of electricity through the Steam Turbine of 55 MW.

The entire plant will generate 165 MW's with the completion of the second phase by June 2002, the spokesman said.

The use of combined cycle plants for power generation has become very popular worldwide and increasingly in demand due to its cost effectiveness, high efficiency, low emission and faster pay back on the investments, he added.

The proposed Combined Cycle Plant uses Naphtha as its fuel. Naphtha is a by-product of the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation Refinery at Sapugaskanda which is presently not used in Sri Lanka and is being exported to Singapore at a lower price. Therefore, the CEB will use this entire Naphtha production of CPC for this plant.

"It is noteworthy that the Sapu-



A contract agreement was signed between the Ceylon Electricity Board and Joint Construction of Marubeni of Japan and Alstom of France to supply, install and commission a combined Cycle Power Plant at Kelanitissa Power Station premises. Chairman Arjun Deraniyagala on behalf of the CEB, Director Sales T. Gas on behalf of the ABB Alstom of France, Senior Officer O. Noda on behalf of the Marubeni Corporation of Japan signed the agreement.

gaskanda Diesel Engine Power Plant also uses another by-product from the CPC Refinery namely Residual Oil", he said.

Since the Sulphur content of the

Naphtha is very low and negligible, the environmental impact due to the emission of Sulphurous gases from this new plant is also minimal, the spokesman remarked.