

22,990 MW during the Seventh Plan period.

(b) The Seventh Plan is yet to be finalised and approved by the National Development Council ; present indications suggest a target of about 16,000 MW for thermal capacity addition in the Plan period.

Setting up a Thermal Power Project with the Soviet Assistance in Kahalgaon

2717. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation is setting up a project with Soviet assistance at Kahalgaon in Bihar, and if so, the estimated cost and other details thereof ;

(b) whether it is proposed to select Ekchari place for dumping the ash emitted out of this project in place of Madhopur Bhorath selected earlier after survey was conducted in 1980-81, if so, reasons therefore ;

(c) whether Government are aware of the danger of pollution of the Ganga river due to flood during monsoon when ash will fall into the river because Ekchari is situated on the bank of Ganga river ;

(d) if so, estimated cost of raising obstruction to check pollution of Ganga water due to falling of ash mixed with rain water ; and

(e) when a final decision is likely to be taken to select the place for dumping of ash keeping in view all these aspects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) Government have approved the Kahalgaon super thermal project (4 × 210MW) at an estimated cost of Rs. 1058.64 crores. The Soviet assistance will be about 250 million Roubles.

(b) An area near Ekchari place, which is about 3-4 kms. from the plant area, is being surveyed. This area is being surveyed as it is free from habitation, and is in the proximity of the plant.

(c) and (d) : Government as well as NTPC are fully aware of the necessity of ensuring that no pollution occurs from the ash disposal area in any season. Ash disposal area in NTPC projects are designed to prevent the escape of ash into natural water by providing suitable embankments. No additional expenditure is anticipated, since such facilities are provided by NTPC irrespective of where the ash disposal area is located.

(e) A final decision on the ash disposal area will be taken after a detailed survey has been conducted and advantages of the alternative areas have been fully considered.

[English]

Motivation for Family Planning

2718. SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether steps are being taken by Government besides creating awareness through media to directly approach Target Groups and motivate them to adopt family planning ;

(b) whether counselling is done to motivate women at the post partum stage in hospitals ; and

(c) if not, whether Government considering to set up a cell or unit at hospitals in view of the vital importance of controlling the population growth ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c) : Inter-personal communication is an important component of the strategy for creating demand for con-