

(c) whether any modification in decreasing the size of the area for the hill regions is proposed to be accepted in view of the meagre availability of land in such regions ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Regional Centres of NCERT During Seventh Plan

1483. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has planned to open a number of Regional Centres during the Seventh Five Year Plan ; and

(b) if so, the likely date by which such Centres would be opened and the names of the places which have been selected for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Seventh Plan proposals envisage setting up of two more Regional Colleges of Education under the National Council of Educational Research and Training.

(b) A decision will be taken after the Seventh Five Year Plan is finalised.

Sharing Cost of Project of Sutlej River and Ali Khud

1484. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of India and the Bhakra Beas Management Board have taken by decision on the request of the Government of the Himachal Pradesh for sharing the cost of projects over River Sutlej, at Dehar in Mandi District and over Ali Khud in Bilaspur which have been necessitated by the formation of the Govind Sagar Lake, consequent upon the construction of Bhakra Dam; and

(b) if so, nature of the decision and the extent to which the cost would be shared by the Union Government and the Bhakra Beas Management Board in each case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) and (b) Since substitute/alternate bridges, as recommend by Inter-Departmental Group constituted by the Government of India (Ministry of Transport), had already been constructed at various locations in the reservoir area at the expense of the Bhakra Beas Management Board, the other partner States of BBMB are not agreeable to share the cost of any new bridges. There is also no possibility of special funds being made available by the Department of Power for the construction of the bridges.

Requirement of West Bengal for Rakes for Salt Movement

1485. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK :

SHRI R. P. DAS :

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total rake requirement of West Bengal for salt movement from either Tuticorin or Saurashtra per month ;

(b) the total rake allotted to West Bengal per month during the last 18 months upto 30 June, 1985 ;

(c) whether there is any gap between requirement and allotment of rakes ;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(e) the steps being taken to remove the gap ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) According to the assessment made by the Salt Commissioner, Govt. of India, the requirement of salt for West Bengal is 3.62 lakh tonnes per annum out of which 2.18 lakh tonnes are allocated for despatch by coastal shipment and 1.44 lakh tonnes or 6.5 rakes per month by rail.

(b) During the last 18 months from January '84 to June 1985, about 5.21 lakh tonnes of salt moved by rail i.e. on an average 15.5 rakes per month.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Renovation of 5th T.P. Unit of Durgapur Projects

1486. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Durgapur Projects Limited sought the help of the Central Electricity Authority for Japanese and to meet the cost of renovation of the 5th thermal power unit of 75 MW capacity ;

(b) if so, when the DPL sought the help of CEA ;

(c) whether Government have fulfilled its request for help ;

(d) if so, when and the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) to (e) Durgapur Projects Ltd. had sought the assistance of the Central Electricity Authority on 28.3.1985 for renovating equipment imported from Japan. The CEA is obtaining relevant data to assess the consolidated requirement of Japanese assistance for revamping the 9 units of Japanese origin installed in the country having capacities of 20 MW and above,

North Eastern Regional Electricity Board

1487. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any meeting of the North Eastern Regional Electricity Board was held on 12 June, 1985 at Itanagar ;

(b) if so, what were the suggestions put forward by the different States in the said meeting ;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ; and

(d) steps to be taken by the Union Government on those suggestions put forward by the different States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The important suggestions put forward inter alia in the meeting include (i) establishment of a permanent Regional Load Despatch Centre including State Load Despatch Centres with entire financing by the Central Government, (ii) formal allocation of the shares of different States from Central projects, (iii) development of load in the region by setting up industries and construction of irrigation and rural electrification schemes, (iv) liberalised financing of RE schemes by REC and conversion of REC loans to grants, (v) holding of next Power Ministers' Conference in the region, (vi) construction of more inter-State lines etc.

(c) and (d) The minutes of the meeting are still awaited from the NEREB, Shillong and the reaction of the Government will be made known after studying the various recommendations.

NTPC's Proposal for Setting up Power Plant at Khoirasol

1488. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Government of West Bengal had about a year ago, approved a proposal for supplying adequate water from the Ajoy Dam for the power plant to be constructed by the National Thermal Power Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) what is the fate of the NTPC's proposal for setting up power plant near Khoirasol in Birbhum ;

(d) whether the NTPC would take up this project now ;

(e) if so, when and the details thereof ; and