

(d) An amount of Rs. 118.00 lakhs is reported to have been spent on the three projects upto March, 1998.

#### Extra Benefits to M.Phil and Ph.D. Holders

176. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the lecturers having both M.Phil and Ph. D. degrees can be given some extra benefits in so far as promotion to senior lecturer grade is concerned;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the lecturers having substantial number of publications and/or paper presentations at National Level Seminars would be given some benefits or incentives;

(d) if so, the time by which the same would be done; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) As per the revised pay scales notified by the Government on 27.7.98, the minimum length of service for eligibility to move into the grade of Lecturer (Senior scale) would be four years for those with Ph.D., five years for those with M.Phil., and six years for others as a Lecturer.

(c) to (e) The UGC has been asked to prepare a scheme, in consultation with the Government, for awarding and recognising such of the meritorious teachers as may not have M.Phil. or Ph.D. but may have shown adequate merit by way of making outstanding contributions through publications, attendance at Seminars, etc.

#### Nehru Yuva Kendra at Kendrapara

177. SHRI PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Nehru Yuva Kendra unit was decided to be set up during the year 1996-97 for the district of Kendrapara (Orissa); and

(b) if so, the present status of the said unit?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has not been possible to open the Kendra so far for want of sanction of the requisite posts and availability of funds.

#### NTPC and Hydro-Power Generation

178. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation is planning to enter into hydro-power generation field;

(b) if so, whether this will overlap the functions of the National Hydro Power Corporation;

(c) whether the present hydro-thermal mix is not balanced thereby causing a hike in power tariffs; and

(d) if so, the National Thermal Power Corporation propose to explore the possibilities of setting up mini-hydel plants to supplement its generation capacity and if so, the states identified for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has been permitted by Ministry of Power to enter into the field of hydro power and non-conventional energy sources.

(b) No, Sir. Because National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) alone may not be able to exploit the huge hydro-electricity potential in the country. The new Hydro policy envisages that several agencies would be promoting hydel development both at the central and state level.

(c) The ideal hydro-thermal mix should be 40:60. At present the hydro share is only 25%. Due to the imbalance in the hydro-thermal mix, especially in Eastern and Western region, many thermal power stations are required to back down during the off peak hours resulting in loss of 4-5% in the Plant Load Factor (PLF). Hydro power stations are ideal for meeting the peak power requirement. Further, cost of power generation in hydro-electric stations declines over time since there is no fuel cost. Inadequate hydro power capacity together with thermal power being required to meet the peak demand, results in loss of energy and makes it difficult to control frequency.

(d) NTPC is identifying some medium size hydro projects under operation as well as those under construction and development for the purpose of investment and capacity addition.

#### Power Plants Set Up with Fuels

179. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Naphtha, Fuel Oil (FO),