

(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),

Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) and High Sulphur Fuel Oil (HSFO) based power plants in the country, State-wise and category-wise;

(b) whether power plants set up with these fuels have lower shelf life and energy output in comparison to the units using either coal or natural gas; and

(c) if so, the action taken on the conclusions of the study conducted by the Planning Commission in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) The Details of the Power Stations run on different types of Oil are as under :

S.No.	Name of Power Stations	State
1.	Pampore GT	J & K
2.	Dhuvran 5-6	Gujarat
3.	Yelhanka D	Karnataka
4.	Bramhapura	Kerala
5.	Narimanam	Tamil Nadu
6.	Maithon GT	West Bengal
7.	West Bengal G	West Bengal
8.	Kasba GT	West Bengal
9.	Chandrapur	Assam

In addition to above existing Power Stations, National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd. is implementing Kayamkulam Combined Cycle Power Project in Kerala, based on Naphtha as main fuel.

(b) The self life of power plant does not depend on the type of fuel used. It depends on the type of turbine installed. Liquid fuel can either be converted as gas or steam to run turbines. A gas run turbine has a shelf life of 15 years whereas a steam run turbine, the shelf life is 25 years, equal to coal based power plant. However, energy output is more in gas based turbine than coal based steam turbine.

(c) Planning Commission has recently taken up a study on computation of cost of generation of electricity with various alternative fuels. The study is yet not finalised.

[Translation]

Scholarships for Studying Abroad

180. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scholarships are provided by the Government to the students going abroad for studying;

(b) if so, the criteria laid down in this regard; and

(c) the number of such scholarships given during 1996-97 alongwith the total amount thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The Department of Education does not provide, of its own scholarships to the students for studies abroad. However, the Department receives offers of scholarships and fellowships from a few countries under Cultural Exchange and other Programmes for studies abroad. Nominations against these offers received from the donor countries are being made by the Department. The final selection for awards rests with the donor countries. The selection for nominations is made on the basis of merit by Selection Committee constituted for the purpose.

[English]

Kaziranga National Park

181. SHRI K.S. RAO :
SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :
SHRI NADENDLA BHASKAR RAO :
SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :
SHRI KAMALNATH :
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :
SHRI C.D. GAMIT :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of animals died in Kaziranga National Park and the extent of damage caused to the park due to recent floods;

(b) the estimated number of animals in the park before flood;

(c) the amount sanctioned by the Government for rescue operations and the amount spent out of the allotted amount;

(d) whether there are reports that the amount is not being utilised properly;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the stringent steps taken by the Government to protect this Park?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) As per the reports received from the Director, Kaziranga National Park, 651 animals have died during the recent floods. The floods have caused intense damage to infrastructural facilities like communication, wooden bridges, wireless network, country boats, High lands etc.