

the Kerala Integrated Horticulture Development Programme has already been finalised and a contract has been entered into with the EEC.

Regularisation of Technician in CGWPRS

7105. SHRI RAMCHANDRA GHANGARE; Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of technician and Graduate Grade apprentices in the Central Government Water and Power Research Station at Khadakwasla in Pune District in 1989, 1990 and 1991;

(b) the number out of them absorbed in regular service; and

(c) the measures being taken absorb those remaining apprentices the research station?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) The number of technicians and graduate grade apprentices in the Central Water and Power Research Station, Khadakwasla, District Pune, in the year 1989, stood at 3 and 2 respectively. In the year 1990, there had been no technician but the Research Station had engaged 2 graduate grade apprentices during the year. In the year 1991, the Research Station had 4 technicians and 1 graduate grade apprentice.

(b) and (c). The existing rules in the Research Station do not permit any such absorption in regular service. However, subject to eligibility conditions, they may apply for the direct recruitment posts, whenever advertised.

Transfer of Power network to NPIC Project

7106. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Min-

ister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to transfer all transmission network of power sector in the country to the National Power Transmission Corporation;

(b), if so, the rationale behind such transfer; and

(c) the role of the C.E.A if any, in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The work relating transmission network will be taken over by National Power Transmission Corporation (NPTC) in a phased manner from National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd., National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd., Neyveli Lignite Corporation, Damodar Valley Corporation, North-Eastern Electric Power Corporation, Tehri Hydro Development Corporation, Nathpa-Jhakri Power Corporation, Bhakra Beas Management Board, Central Electricity Authority etc.

(b) The objective behind setting up of the NPTC is that the organisation would:

(i) help in pooling all the expertise in this field under one Central Organisation,

(ii) bring about economies of scale in the design, construction, maintenance and operation of EHV lines.

(iii) solve coordination problems that are presently encountered,

(iv) ensure better integrated grid operations and delivery of Central share of power from various Central Generating Stations to the

respective beneficiary States, and

[*Translation*]

- (v) accelerate the evolutionary process of formation of the regional grids and ultimately the national power grid.

(c) The Central Electricity Authority is a statutory organisation constituted under the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948. The main functions of the Authority are;

(i) to formulate short-term and perspective plans for Power-Development.

(ii) to collect data concerning generation, distribution and utilisations of power, study of cost efficiency losses, benefits, publication of reports and investigations;

(iii) to advise the State Governments, Electricity Boards, generation companies, or any other agency engaged in the generation or supply of electricity on such matters as would improve the operation and maintenance of their system in an efficient and coordinated manner;

(iv) to promote and assist in the timely completion of projects sanctioned in the power sector and to constantly monitor their implementation;

(v) to make arrangements for advancing the skills of persons in the generation and distributions of electricity;

(vi) to promote research in matters affecting the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity;

(vii) to advise the Central Government or any matter on which its advice is sought or to make recommendations which would help in improving the generation, distribution and utilisations of electricity.

Agreement with Nepal on Irrigation projects

7107. SHRI SUKDE PASWAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been approved recently for implementing in Koshinadi, Birpur and Bhimpur adjoining areas with Nepal; and

(b) if so, the details of the irrigation projects on which an agreement has been signed with Nepal?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). No agreement has been recently reached with Nepal for implementing irrigation projects in Birpur and Bhimnagar areas.

[*English*]

Bauxite in Visakhapatnam Area, Andhra Pradesh

7108. SHRIDATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bauxite mineral ore of very superior quality is found in abundance in the Visakhapatnam and Vizianagar district and other areas in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the experts of the Metallurgical Engineering Consultants India Ltd. (MECON) has suggested for locating the alumina plant at Krishnadevi Peta; and

(c) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?