

(b) if so, the salient features thereof indicating the estimated cost and the location of the Project; and

(c) the likely date by which the Salt Model and Research Station will be established ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Downgradation of post offices in Andhra Pradesh

2938. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of post offices of different categories such as head post offices, sub post offices; ED post offices and branch post offices etc, district wise, in Andhra Pradesh as on 1-1-1985 and the number of those which were downgraded as on 1-1-87; and

(b) the reasons for downgradation of these post offices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Supply of defective machinery by BHEL to Upper Kolab Power Project Orissa

2939. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether owing to defects in the machinery supplied by the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) to the Upper Kolab Power Project in Orissa, the power house has become defunct only a week after its commissioning;

(b) if so the details of defects and the action taken to remedy the situation;

(c) the loss caused as a result thereof;

(d) whether responsibility has been fixed for these lapses and if so, the action taken against the delinquents; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI) : (a) to (c) For the Upper Kolab Hydroelectric Project two machines have been supplied by BHEL. After running for about a month, the units had to be stopped for replacement of brake tracks, resulting in loss of power generation. After recommissioning, while Unit 2 has been currently in service, vibrations were noticed in Unit 1. This unit has been stopped again and is being attended to. It is expected to be put back into service shortly.

(d) and (e) BHEL have deputed a team of experts to investigate the causes.

National Grid Authority on power

2940. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government are contemplating to set up a National Grid Authority on power;

(b) whether Union Government consider such an organisation necessary at the national level for better management of the power grid and for coordinating the functioning of the different regional grids as a composite national power network; and

(c) if so, the time by which such an authority is likely to be formed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI) : (a) to (c) With the continued augmentation and strengthening of