

[English]

**Power Projects in Orissa**

214. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of power projects in Orissa approved by the Union Government as on March 31, 1998;

(b) the target fixed for their completion during the current year and the progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c) The details are as follows :-

S. No.	Name of Project	Capacity (MW)	Commission Original	Schedule As now exp.	Remarks
1.	Talcher St. II (NTPC)				
	Unit I	500	3/2002	3/2002	-
	Unit II	500	12/2002	12/2002	-
	Unit III	500	9/2003	9/2003	-
	Unit IV	500	6/2004	6/2004	-
2.	Ib TPP Ph. II (OPGC)				
	Unit III	210	-	12/2001	Techno-economic
	Unit IV	210	-	06/2002	clearance given in Aug., 94 to the Ib Valley TPP (Unit III & IV) to M/s. IVPL Jharsuguda (Capacity 2x210 MW). The scheme however, has been retained by Govt. of Orissa. The IPP has submitted DPR for 2x250 MW capacity (Unit V & VI) on 21.8.1997 in lieu of this.

**"Non-Timber Forest Produce Scheme"**

215. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of the Non-timber Forest Produce Scheme for providing 100% financial assistance to the States with sizeable tribal population to sustain their livelihood;

(b) the budgetary allocation for the scheme for 1998-99 and the total area proposed to be covered during this period;

(c) whether under this Scheme the Government would consider allocating special funds for Meghalaya which is reeling under the Apex Court's timber felling ban, to switch over to cultivation of medicinal plants/herbs etc; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) The Non-Timber Forest

Produce Scheme has been approved for implementation in the 9th Plan. Projects worth Rs. 59.85 crores have been sanctioned for this period to cover approximately 52,000 hectares. The budgetary allocation for 1998-99 is Rs. 11 crores.

(c) and (d) An amount of Rs. 1.64 crores has been tentatively earmarked for Meghalaya under this scheme in the 9th Plan. The scheme allows for plantation of bamboo, canes, mixed species of medicinal value and regeneration of perennial herbs and shrubs.

**Decentralisation of Literacy Programme**

216. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Literacy Mission has recently recommended decentralisation of the literacy

programme including adult literacy in order to ensure fuller participation of States;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to strengthen State Literacy Missions and for making it a people's programme by incorporating the ground realities?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) National Literacy Mission (NLM) has always laid great stress on decentralized planning and implementation of adult literacy programme. Any grassroot programme cannot fully succeed unless the State Governments are fully involved in its implementation. NLM has taken some major steps to ensure fuller participation of the States. Some of the measures are as follows :-

- (i) Constitution of State Literacy Mission Authorities (SLMAs) and delegation of certain powers to them.
- (ii) Active involvement of the State Government in supervision and monitoring of the programmes through the practice of Monthly Monitoring Meetings held at the State Headquarters and conducted by the State Directorate of Adult Education. All Districts implementing literacy programmes take part in these State level meetings.
- (iii) State Directorates of Adult Education have been actively involved in concurrent evaluation of the literacy campaigns. They maintain a panel of reputed academic and resource-support institutions and use them for the purpose of evaluation.
- (iv) State Governments through the District Collector, who is also the Chairman of Zila Saksharata Samiti, are directly involved in all aspects of operationalization of the literacy programmes.

(b) The decentralization of programme functions at the State level has been made in view of the feedback received from the field level. The outcome of and response to these delegations has been encouraging.

(c) Following steps have been taken to strengthen the State Literacy Mission Authorities :

- (i) Powers to sanction schemes of Continuing Education (CE).

(ii) Strengthening their administrative infrastructure through provision of financial help. Six SLMAs have already been given Rs. 25.00 lakhs each in this respect.

(iii) SLMAs have been encouraged to take academic, training and promotional activities. Funds at the rate of 3% of the total administrative budget of a Continuing Education Scheme is earmarked for the SLMAs.

(iv) By Co-opting many academicians, non-officials and people's representatives in the formation of the SLMAs wide people's participation is sought to be achieved.

[Translation]

#### Opportunities for Higher Education

217. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI

CHAUDHARI :

SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the opportunities for higher education are limited in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the percentage of people out of the total population, who have been getting opportunities for higher education;

(c) whether the Government propose to expand the scope of higher education to a large number of people;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Due to various reasons the opportunities for higher education are not uniform in different parts of the country.

(b) 6% (estimated) of the relevant age-group.

(c) to (e) The emphasis of the Government has been on consolidation and upgradation of the existing facilities so as to attract more students to higher education in various parts of the country. The total enrolment of students in higher education has increased to 67.55 lakhs in 1996-97 as compared to 2.63 lakhs in 1950-51. Similarly the number of Universities and Colleges has increased from 30 and 750 in 1950-51 to 237 and 9703 respectively in 1996-97.