Hydraulic machinery

- Turbine is a device that extracts energy from a fluid (converts the energy held by the fluid to mechanical energy)
- Pumps are devices that add energy to the fluid (e.g. pumps, fans, blowers and compressors).

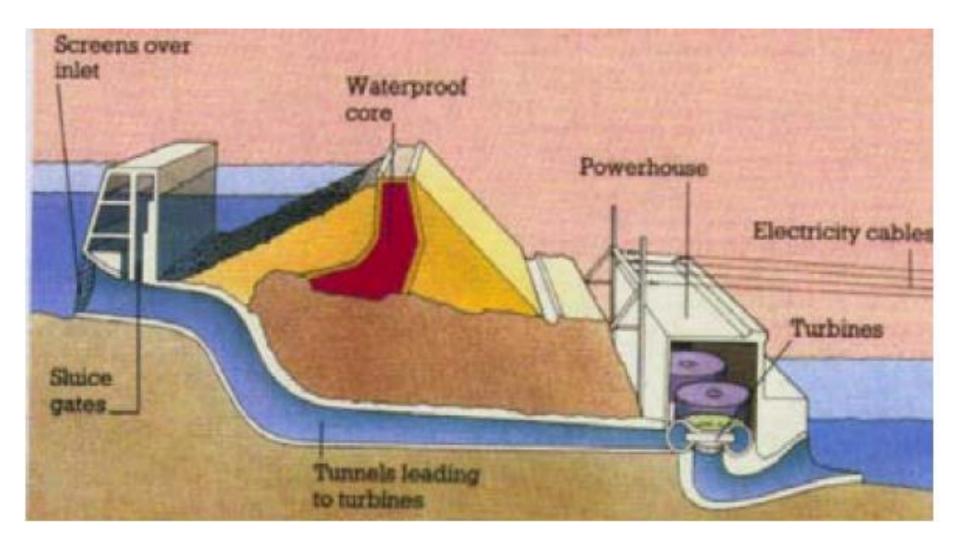
Turbines

- Hydro electric power is the most remarkable development pertaining to the exploitation of water resources throughout the world
- Hydroelectric power is developed by hydraulic turbines which are hydraulic machines.
- Turbines convert hydraulic energy or hydropotential into mechanical energy.
- Mechanical energy developed by turbines is used to run electric generators coupled to the shaft of turbines
- Hydro electric power is the most cheapest source of power generation.

Turbines

- J.V. Poncelet first introduced the idea of the development of mechanical energy through hydraulic energy
- Modern hydraulic turbines have been developed by L.A. Pelton (impulse), G. Coriolis and J.B. Francis (reaction) and V Kaplan (propeller)

Turbines



Types of turbines

Turbines can be classified on the basis of:

- Head and quantity of water available
- Hydraulic action of water
- Direction of flow of water in the runner
- Specific speed of turbines
- Disposition of the shaft of the runner

• Based on head and quantity of water

According to head and quantity of water available, the turbines can be classified into

- a) High head turbines
- b) Medium head turbines
- c) Low head turbines
- a) High head turbines

High head turbines are the turbines which work under heads more than 250m. The quantity of water needed in case of high head turbines is usually small. The Pelton turbines are the usual choice for high heads.

- Based on head and quantity of water
 - b) Medium head turbines

The turbines that work under a head of 45m to 250m are called medium head turbines. It requires medium flow of water. Francis turbines are used for medium heads.

c) Low head turbines

Turbines which work under a head of less than 45m are called low head turbines. Owing to low head, large quantity of water is required. Kaplan turbines are used for low heads.

• Based on hydraulic action of water

According to hydraulic action of water, turbines can be classified into

- a) Impulse turbines
- b) Reaction turbines
- a) Impulse turbines

If the runner of a turbine rotates by the impact or impulse action of water, it is an impulse turbine.

b) Reaction turbines

These turbines work due to reaction of the pressure difference between the inlet and the outlet of the runner.

- Based on direction of flow of water in the runner
 Depending upon the direction of flow through the runner, following types of turbines are there
 - a) Tangential flow turbines
 - b) Radial flow turbines
 - c) Axial flow turbines
 - d) Mixed flow turbines
 - a) Tangential flow turbines

When the flow is tangential to the wheel circle, it is a tangential flow turbine. A Pelton turbine is a Tangential flow turbine.

Based on direction of flow of water in the runner
 b) Radial flow turbines

In a radial flow, the path of the flow of water remains in the radial direction and in a plane normal to the runner shaft. No pure radial flow turbine is in use these days.

c) Axial flow turbines

When the path of flow water remains parallel to the axis of the shaft, it is an axial flow turbine. The Kaplan turbine is axial flow turbine

d) Mixed flow turbines

When there is gradual change of flow from radial to axial in the runner, the flow is called mixed flow. The Francis turbine is a mixed flow turbine.

• Based on specific speed of turbines

Specific speed of a turbine is defined as the speed of a geometrically similar turbine which produces a unit power when working under a unit head.

The specific speed of Pelton turbine ranges between 8-30, Francis turbines have specific speed between 50-250, Specific speed of Kaplan lies between 250-850.

 Based on disposition of shaft of runner
 Usually, Pelton turbines are setup with horizontal shafts, where as other types have vertical shafts.

• Heads

These are defined as below:

(a) Gross Head: Gross or total head is the difference between the headrace level and the tail race level when there is no flow.

(b) Net Head: Net head or the effective head is the head available at the turbine inlet. This is less than the gross head, by an amount, equal to the friction losses occurring in the flow passage, from the reservoir to the turbine inlet.

Losses

Various types of losses that occur in a power plant are given below:

(a) Head loss in the penstock: This is the friction loss in the pipe of a penstock.

(b) Head loss in the nozzle: In case of impulse turbines, there is head loss due to nozzle friction.

(c) Hydraulic losses: In case of impulse turbines, these losses occur due to blade friction, eddy formation and kinetic energy of the leaving water. In a reaction turbine, apart from above losses, losses due to friction in the draft tube and disc friction also occur.

(d) Leakage losses: In case of impulse turbines, whole of the water may not be striking the buckets and therefore some of the water power may go waste. In a reaction turbine, some of the water may be passing through the clearance between the casing and the runner without striking the blades and thus not doing any work. These losses are called leakage losses.

(e) Mechanical losses: The power produced by the runner is not available as useful work of the shaft because some power may be lost in bearing friction as mechanical losses.

f) Generator losses: Due to generator loss, power produced by the generator is still lesser than the power obtained at the shaft output.

Efficiencies

Various types of efficiencies are defined as under:

(a) Hydraulic efficiency: It is the ratio of the power developed by the runner to the actual power supplied by water to the runner. It takes into account the hydraulic losses occurring in the turbine

 η_h = Runner output / Actual power supplied to runner

= Runner output / (ρ QgH)

Where, Q = Quantity of water actually striking the runner blades

H = Net head available at the turbine inlet

Efficiencies

(b) Volumetric efficiency: It is the ratio of the actual quantity of water striking the runner blades to the quantity supplied to the turbine. It takes into account the volumetric losses.

Let $\Delta Q = Quantity$ of water leaking or not striking the runner blades

 $\eta_v = Q / (Q + \Delta Q)$

(c) Mechanical efficiency: The ratio of the shaft output to the runner output is called the mechanical efficiency and it accounts for the mechanical losses.

 η_m = Shaft output / Runner output

• Efficiencies

(d) Overall efficiency: Ratio of shaft output to the net power available at the turbine inlet gives overall efficiency of the turbine

 $\eta_{m} = \text{Shaft output / Net power available}$ $\eta_{o} = \frac{Shaft.output}{\rho(Q + \Delta Q)gH}$ $\eta_{o} = \frac{Shaft.output}{Runner.output} \times \frac{Runner.output}{\rho QgH} \times \frac{Q}{(Q + \Delta Q)}$

 $\eta_o = \eta_m \times \eta_h \times \eta_v$ Thus all the three types of losses, mechanical, hydraulic and volumetric have been taken into account.