

Under this Tribal Sub-Plan, it is proposed to open 1220 post offices, appoint 1952 Extra Departmental delivery Agents, instal 1000 letter boxes and provide mobile counter facilities in 1500 villages in the tribal areas of the country during the Sixth Five-Year Plan.

In Gujarat State, a target of opening 20 post offices, appointing 72 extra departmental agents, installing 10 letter boxes and providing counter facilities in 35 villages in the tribal areas of the State has been set for the current year 1981-82, which has since been achieved.

(b) *Telegraphic facilities.*

The general policy for extending telegraphic facilities in rural and backward areas has been further liberalised for all tribal areas including those in Gujarat State.

**Super Thermal Projects under contemplation**

3694. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many new Super Thermal Projects are under contemplation to be put up as a part of the overall strategy to meet the projected requirement by the end of 1990; and

(b) how do Government propose to fund these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) The National Thermal Power Corporation is setting up Super Thermal Power Stations of 2000 MW at Singrauli in U.P., 2100 MW at Korba in M.P., 2100 MW at Ramagundam in Andhra Pradesh and of 600 MW at Farakkā (planned for 2100 MW) in West Bengal. All these four Super Thermal Power Stations has been planned for completion by 1990.

There is a provision in the Sixth Five Year Plan for fresh projects being

taken up by the National Thermal Power Corporation. The feasibility reports for Stage—I of the Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Station at Waidhan in M.P. of 1260 MW (6x210 MW) units and State—I of the Kahalgaon Super Thermal Power Station of 800 MW (4x200 MW) units in Bihar have been granted techno-economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority. An investment decision on these projects is, however, yet to be taken. The National Thermal Power Corporation is also investigating the feasibility of setting up super thermal power stations at other sites.

(b) The financing of new projects is normally done through the plan funds.

**Expansions and Modernisation of Telephones**

3695. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for the expansion and modernisation of telephones in 1982-83.

(b) whether such modernisation and expansion programmes of telephones had been launched earlier also;

(c) if so, the names of the States which have been covered by the above programme in 1980-81 and 1981-82;

(d) what modernisation and expansion programmes were taken up during these years in those States; and

(e) the details about the programmes of Government for expansion and modernisation of telephones in various states in 1982-83?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Practically all States in India have been covered by expansion programmes in 1980-81 and 1981-82.