

Five Year Plan. Rajasthan will have a share in it and we shall make all efforts to ensure it. The hon. Prime Minister has given assurance in this very House that there should not be any shortage of electricity in any part of the country by the end of the Seventh Plan.

MR. SPEAKER : Let the hon. Minister accompany us on the 21st.

(c) There is no separate fixation of tariff for supply of hydel power.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Hydroelectric projects with a total installed capacity of about 5,540 MW are expected to be commissioned during the 7th Plan period.

[Translation]

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Time-Bound Plans for Giving Cheap Power to Consumers

*409. DR. A. K. PATEL :
SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) India's potential in hydel power and the percentage of it presently utilised;

(b) the average capacity utilisation (Plant Load Factor) of the present hydel power plants;

(c) the average tariffs of hydel power in Punjab and Bihar;

(d) whether there is much difference; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time-bound plans and prospects of hydel projects for giving cheap power to consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) The hydroelectric potential of India has been estimated at about 89,000 MW at 60% load factor of which about 11% has been developed and an additional 7% is under development.

(b) The performance of hydroelectric projects is judged not by the P. L. F. but on the basis of the actual energy generation vis-a-vis the designed energy generation. During the year 1984-85, actual generation from hydel projects was 102% of the designed potential.

Opening of Post Offices

*411. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to open a post office or a branch post office within the distance of five kilometres in every part of the country;

(b) whether any scheme has been formulated therefor;

(c) if so, the outlines thereof and if not, the other means through which Government propose to provide postal facilities to the people;

(d) whether Government propose to conduct a survey in district Basti (U.P.) with a view to finding out the number of post offices required to be opened there according to the said norm; and

(e) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) In rural areas, post offices are opened on the basis that the distance between a proposed village and the nearest post office should be more than 3 KMs. Besides, population and expected revenue are also taken into account. In urban areas the condition is that in cities with a population of 20 lakhs or more the minimum distance should be one kilometre and in other cities 1.5 kilometres. Urban post offices should also be financially self-supporting. As on 31st Oct., 1985, a total number of 1,44,519 post offices have already been set up on the basis of norms prescribed from time to time.