

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.

(b) and (c). Apart from the regular post offices and mobile post offices, a new scheme has also been introduced under which suitable institutions and individuals can be licensed to undertake specified items of postal work on commission basis.

(d) and (e). Postal facilities in Basti district of Uttar Pradesh have been reviewed. Already there are 577 post offices in the District. In that district there is one post office for 2.25 sq. kms. in urban areas and 12.97 sq. kms. in rural areas. The corresponding figures for Uttar Pradesh are 2.40 sq. Kms. and 17.77 sq. kms. respectively. The present state of development of postal facilities in Basti can therefore be taken as adequate.

[English]

Telecommunication Services in Arunachal Pradesh

*418. SHRI WANGPHA LOWANG : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that tele-communication services in Arunachal Pradesh are extremely poor;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to improve the same; and

(c) whether Government propose to take up on priority basis the improvement of the telecommunication services in Arunachal Pradesh in view of Arunachal Pradesh being situated in far-flung area of the country and cut-off from the mainstream of national life ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Telephone services in Arunachal Pradesh are generally satisfactory.

(b) Following steps are being taken to further improve the telephone services :

- (i) Maintenance routines are being vigorously enforced.
- (ii) Long overhead open wire lines are being replaced by reliable UHF microwave radio relay systems and satellite communications.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Surrender of LPG Licences by Distributors in Hyderabad and Secunderabad

*419. SHRI SODE RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that about 50 LPG distributors in Hyderabad and Secunderabad have surrendered their licences to the civil supplies authorities protesting against the Government's refusal to increase commission to them; and

(b) if so, the details thereof the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) and (b). On November 15, 1985 LPG distributors of Hyderabad and Secunderabad other than those operated by the Andhra Pradesh Civil Supplies Corporation surrendered Licences granted to them by the State Government, expressing apprehension about arrests through stringent application of the Andhra Pradesh Petroleum Products (Licensing and Regulation of Supplies) Order, 1980. The situation was resolved on November 17, 1985 and normal functioning of the distributorship resumed.

Supply of Cement to Orissa

*422. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the requirement of cement in Orissa and actual quantity supplied by Government during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that supply of cement to Orissa during the last three years has been far below its requirement; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof and the action Government propose to take to meet full requirement of Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) On introduction of policy of partial decontrol, the initial