

coastal thermal stations. Specific proposals could be formulated in the light of the findings of the study and keeping in view the availability of necessary inputs.

#### **STD Facility to Tribal Areas of Andhra Pradesh**

\*921. SHRI T. BALA GOUD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether requests have been made for granting STD facility to some towns located in tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of such pending requests; and

(c) when these requests will be acceded to?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A request has been received for provision of STD facility at Polavaram in West Godavari District in Andhra Pradesh.

Polavaram is a very small exchange. In view of limitation of resources, Polavaram has not been included in the Seventh Plan for providing STD facility.

#### **Cadre Review of Junior Engineers in Civil Wing of Telecommunications Department**

\*922. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cadre review has been conducted in respect of the Junior Engineers of the Civil Wing of the Department of Telecommunications as per the recommendations of the Third and Fourth Pay Commissions;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the follow up steps taken or proposed to be taken in that regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not conducting the cadre review as yet?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c). There is no stagnation in the cadre of Junior Engineers of the Civil Wing. The promotional prospects of the Junior Engineers in Civil Wing of Telecom Department are for the time being better than those of Junior Engineers in the Ministry of Urban Development. In fact, vacancies have been available which could not be filled up due to resistance of the Junior Engineers to appearing at prescribed departmental qualifying examination for promotion as Assistant Engineer. This issue has now been settled through the verdicts of Calcutta and Madras benches of Central Administrative Tribunal in the year 1987. The process for holding meeting of DPCs for promotion to the grade of Assistant Engineers has been initiated. With this the Junior Engineers with about 12 years of service as Junior Engineer (Electrical) and about 14 years of service as Junior Engineer (Civil) can expect to be promoted.

#### **Criteria for Financing Rural Electrification Schemes**

\*923. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the present criteria of financing the rural electrification schemes by the Rural Electrification Corporation; and

(b) the details of the target fixed by Rural Electrification Corporation for energising pumpsets in States during the Seventh Plan period and the achievements made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) In order to be eligible for financial assistance from the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), rural electrification projects are required to achieve the minimum Economic Rate of Return (ERR) prescribed for different categories of projects.