

(2) Post Offices in Tribal and Backward Areas :

(i) Post Offices in gram-panchayat villages may be opened subject to the following conditions :

- (a) There is no other Post Office within the radius of 3 Kms from the proposed Post Office; and
- (b) The proposed Post Office is expected to yield income to the extent of atleast 10 per cent of its estimated cost.

(ii) Post Offices in non-gram-panchayat villages may be opened subject to the following conditions :

- (a) The village (or an integrated cluster of villages within a radius of 1.5 Kms.) should have a population of 1,000 or more;
- (b) There should not be another Post Office within the radius of 3 Kms from the proposed Post Office; and
- (c) The proposed Post Office is expected to yield income to the extent of atleast 10% of its estimated cost.

Setting up of Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion Plant in Kerala

6592. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up an Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion plant in Kerala during the Seventh Plan period; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. However the Government is considering the techno-economic feasibility of setting up a shore based 1 MWe OTEC Plant in Lakshadweep Islands.

Projects/Plans under Central Industrial Sector in U.P.

6593. SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the project/plans being run in the Central Industrial Sector in Uttar Pradesh with (i) their names, (ii) the location, (iii) description of such projects/plans, (iv) period of their commencement, (v) total estimated cost, (vi) annual expenditure, (vii) the facilities, if any, being given by the State Government and (viii) the present status of these projects/plans;

(b) whether any project report(s) have been prepared; and

(c) if so, whether a copy thereof will be laid on the Table ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). Details are being collected and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

Entrusting of Pipeline work to Public Sector Undertakings

6594. SHRI KUNWAR RAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry is hesitating in entrusting the work of laying of pipelines to public sector undertakings such as Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd;

(b) if not, the facts in regard thereto; and

(c) the number of undertakings in the country which have been entrusted with this job at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Pipeline laying works are being awarded through open tenders. Due preference is given to Public Sector Undertakings in