

during 1986, were at various stages of consideration.

New Hydel Projects in Himachal Pradesh

2375. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the proposals for new hydel projects sent to the Planning Department of the Union Government by Himachal Pradesh Government; and

(b) the reaction of the Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Six hydro-electric projects with a total installed capacity of 693.95 MW have been sanctioned by the Planning Commission and are under construction. In addition, two hydro-electric projects with a total capacity of 1320 MW have been accorded techno-economic approval by the Central Electricity Authority and four other projects are under their examination.

[English]

Telephone Services in Villages

2376. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that telephone service at the village level is negligible in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the number of villages which have so far been provided telephone facilities in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The departments objective is to make the Telecom. facility available within 5 Kms. of most of villages. About 50% of the objective has been achieved.

(b) Does not arise in view of answer (a) above.

(c) 23,197 villages have been provided with telephone service upto December, 85.

Progress of Drilling Operations Krishna Godavari Basin

2377. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of wells taken up for drilling by Oil and Natural Gas Commission under Krishna Godavari Basin oil exploration on shore programme since 1977 and the amount spent on each well so far;

(b) the latest position of each well; and

(c) the inference drawn in respect of each well where drilling is completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) 18 wells have so far been taken up for drilling in onshore Krishna Godavari Basin. The cost of completed wells, where accounts have been finalised, ranges from Rs. 4 crores to Rs. 14 crore.

(b) Of the 18 wells, 13 have been completed and 5 are under drilling.

(c) Of the 13 completed wells, 7 proved to be gas bearing.

[Translation]

New Telecommunication Centres in Rajasthan

2378. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of radio system based micro-wave telecommunication centres in the country along with their number in Rajasthan; and

(b) the names of those areas/places where Government propose to set up new telecommunication centres (micro-wave) during the Seventh Plan ?