

Sir. The telephone exchange is working in a departmental building at Hailakandi in Assam.

(b) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

Direct Telegraph and Telephone Channels to link Hailakandi with Guwahati and Karimganj

4779. SHRI SUDARSAN DAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hailakandi, a sub-division town in Cachar district of Assam has no direct telegraph or telephone link with Guwahati, the State Capital and Karimganj, the neighbouring district headquarters; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to install direct telegraph and telephone channels to link Hailakandi with Guwahati and Karimganj ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The position regarding Telegraph and Telephone links from Hailakandi is as under.

Telegraph Links :

Hailakandi is not connected to either Guwahati or Karimganj. It is connected to Silchar which is the Head Quarters of Cachar District.

Telephone Link :

Hailakandi has a direct trunk circuit to Karimganj. There is no direct trunk circuit to Guwahati.

(b) Telegraph

As per the plans for modernisation of Telegraph Network in North-Eastern Telecom. Circle, Hailakandi is to be provided with an Electronic Keyboard which will give it direct access to not only Gauhati but all other telegraphs offices in

the Circle and the country through other inter-connected systems.

Telephone :

A direct trunk circuit between Hailakandi and Guwahati is not justified as the trunk traffic is low at present.

Dhaleswari Hydro-electric Project

4780. SHRI SUDARSAN DAS : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether investigation for the proposed Dhaleswari Hydro-electric Project in Mizoram has been completed; and

(b) if so, when the construction of the project will be undertaken ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The detailed Project Report for Dhaleswari Hydro-electric Project, prepared by National Hydro-electric Power Corporation, is under techno-economic appraisal of Central Electricity Authority. The construction of the project would be taken up after the project is cleared by Central Electricity Authority and the investment decision is taken.

Oil drilling by USSR in West Bengal Himalayan foothills and Dhansiri Valley

4781. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADKAR PATIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Soviet Union have been offered drilling of certain areas in West Bengal, Himalayan foothills and Dhansiri Valley;

(b) if so, whether drilling has been started; and

(c) the details thereof and the results achieved thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA

SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (c). No areas in West Bengal, Himalayan Foothills and Dhansiri Valley have been offered for drilling to the Soviet Union. However, in pursuance of the Working Programme agreed between the two countries, Soviet experts will drill a location Cheri in Himalayan Foothills for geological prospecting. The drilling has not yet commenced.

ISI marking on LPG stoves and inspection by gas agencies

4782. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any rule of inspection of gas stove, if not purchased from L.P.G. agency, in case of release of new L.P.G. connection;

(b) whether it is a fact that LPG Agencies/Dealers as well as concerned officials of Indian Oil Corporation can compel consumers and charge some extra gratification without any receipt for getting the stove inspected in spite of production of an I.S.I. marked stove's receipt;

(c) if so, the reasons for not mentioning such clauses in the allotment letter to the consumers for new LPG connection;

(d) if not, the number of complaints received by the LPG Companies or by Government during the period from 1.10.1985 to 28.2.1986; and

(e) the action taken against the dealers/agencies involved in such type of complaints ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. The distributors are authorised to charge a testing fee of Rs. 10/- only in such cases; and are expected to issue a receipt for this recovery from the consumer.

(d) The oil industry does not maintain a separate record of the complaints pertaining to the inspection of gas stoves.

(e) All specific complaints are investigated and action is taken against the erring distributors under the Market Discipline Guidelines.

[*Translation*]

LPG based production units

4783. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up LPG based power production units keeping in view the shortage of electricity in the country;

(b) if so, the number thereof and the names of the places where these will be set up along with their, capacity and the time by which these will be set up; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up such a power generation unit in Mathura also ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[*English*]

Autonomy to public sector undertakings in their financial policy matters

4784. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to grant full autonomy to various public sector undertakings in their financial policy matters and their day to day functioning;

(b) whether opinion of different administrative Ministries has been sought in this connection; and

(c) if so, whether they have also approved this proposal ?