SURETY:

The licensed postal agent will provide security to the Department in the form of National Saving Certificates pledged to the Department for an amount of Rs. 3000/-.

CANCELLATION OF LICENCE :--

The licence can be revoked at any time without assigning any reason by the competent authority for violation of instructions by giving the licensee a notice of not less than one month. The licensee can also terminate the contract by giving a notice of not less than one month.

[Translation]

Completion of Thein Dam and Ropar Thermal Power Plant

5743. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether completion of Thein Dam and Ropar Thermal Power Plant is being delayed;
- (b) if so, whether the amount allocated for this purpose during 1986-87 comes to only half the amount actually required for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The work on the construction of the Thein Dam is progressing as per the present schedule. The Project Authorities of Ropar Thermal Power Project Stage-II have advanced the commissioning of the two units by six months each. This is expected to be achieved by appropriate management steps.

(b) and (c) Allocation of funds for these projects for the year 1986-87 is yet to be finalised.

[English]

Telephone Services in Villages

- 5744. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether a large number of villages will be connected by telephone services in 1986-87;
- (b) if so, the number of telephones to be installed; and
- (c) the number of villages to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Approximately 1120 Long Distance Public Telephones and approximately 700, 25/50 lines small telephone exchanges are planned for 1986-87, subject to fulfiling the conditions stipulated in the liberalised policy and availability of equipment.
- (c) The villages have not yet been identified.

Allotment of LPG Agencies and Petrol Pumps to SC/ST

- 5745. SHRI GANGA RAM Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number of LPG agencies and petrol pumps sanctioned in the country upto December, 1985;
- (b) the number out of these given to the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and
- (c) out of the LPG agencies and petrol pumps sanctioned to the weaker sections, how many have been cancelled and the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE **PETROLEUM** AND MINISTRY OF NATURAL GAS (SHRI **CHANDRA** SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) and (b) 2599 LPG distributorships and 13231 Retail Outlet (Petrol/Diesel) dealerships were operating in the country as on 31.12.85. Out of these, 358 LPG distributorships and 418 Retail Outlet (Petrol and Diesel) dealerships pertained to SC/ST category.

(c) There being no separate reservation for the weaker sections, no statistics on them are being maintained.

[Translation]

lilegal Coal Mining at Chandwa and Balumath Blocks of Palamu District. Bihar

5746. SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state whether Government are aware that coal worth crores of rupees being mined illegally from the coal mines at Chandwa and Balumath blocks of Palamu District of Bihar and carried out elsewhere and if so, concrete steps being taken by Government to check this practice?

THE MINISTER OF ENERY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): There is no organised illegal coal mining within the lease hold areas of Central Coalfields Limited including Chandwa and Balumath. Chandua is an anchal within Balumath P.S. However, attempts at illegal mining of coal at Balumath area were made by some unscrupulous persons. To curb such activities of illegal mining Central Coalfields Limited Security Department has established a post at Balumath. All out efforts are being made by the Security Personnel with the help of local police to stop any attemp illegal extraction/pilferage of Regular patrolling and surprise checks are being conducted. Some arrests are also reported to have been made in this connection.

The State Government and coal companies have heen asked to take concerted action against the persons who indulge in illegal extraction of coal. coal companies in collaboration with the State Government law enforcing authorities conduct raids to apprehend the offenders.

[English]

Allotment of Maruti Vehicles

5747. SHRI P. NAMGYAL: Will the Ministry of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the categories of persons entitled for allotment of Maruti vehicles from the manufacturer's quota:
- (b) whether as per recent directive of the Supreme Court, the judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts have also been included in the said category as reported in the Hindustan Times of 8 March. 1986:
- (c) whether Members of Parliament and State Legislatures have not been included in the said category for allotment of Maruti vehicles:
- (d) if so, whether Government propose to include the Members of Parliament and State Legislatures in the entitlement list for allotment of Maruti vehicles; and
 - (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVE-LOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) A statement is given below.

(d) and (e) Government do not exercise any control over distribution of vehicles.

Statement

Recently Supreme Court has laid down detailed guidelines to regulate the allotment of Maruti Vehicles out of manufacturers' quota. As per these guidelines. allotment of Maruti Vehicles out of manufacturers' quota will be made in favour of following categories only ;---