

5. A large-scale programme of setting up of bio-gas plants.
6. Augmentation of energy availability by promoting alternative sources of energy based on solar, wind and bio-mass.

Defective Telecommunication System in Jhalawar and Kota Districts, Rajasthan

6511. SHRI JUHAR SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has received complaints regarding inefficiency in the working of telephone exchanges in Jhalawar and Kota districts like Jhalawar, Jhalrapatan, Bhawani-Mandi, Manoharathana Ram Ganj Mandi, etc.;

(b) if so, the steps taken to improve the working efficiency;

(c) whether even small distance calls do not mature due to old and outdated exchange equipment; and

(d) if so, how and by what time Government would install new equipments at the spots of complaints ?

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) These complaints have been investigated and remedial actions were taken to improve the performance of these exchanges.

(c) The overall Trunk efficiency of exchanges in Kota and Jhalawar Districts has been generally satisfactory within the available resources as at present these exchanges are predominantly covered by carrier system working on open wire overhead lines which are subject to vagaries of weather and are susceptible to faults.

(d) Plans have been drawn to progressively provide reliable and high grade media to replace these open wire Trunk lines by UHF (ultra High frequency system).

[Translation]

Chemical Unit engaged in producing Chemicals for making natural Gases fit for use

6512. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of places in Rajasthan where survey has been conducted to explore the possibility of natural gases chemicals etc. and the outcome thereof; and

(b) the number of chemical units in Rajasthan engaged in the production of chemicals required for making natural gases fit for use and the scope of their expansion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) Oil and Natural Gas Commission (O.N.G.C.) and Oil India Limited (OIL) have conducted Seismic Surveys for oil exploration in Jaisalmer and Bikaner areas of Western Rajasthan. The data obtained from the Seismic surveys are being processed and interpreted for oil and gas prospects.

ONGC has also drilled 19 wells in Jaisalmer Basin on 8 different structure, details of which are as follows :

Structures	Wells drilled
Manhera Tibba	8
Shunarwali Tallai	2
Bhakhri Tibba	2
Kharotar	2
Vikharan Nai	1
Bhuvan	1
Ghotaru	1
Sadewala	2
Total	19

Out of these, four wells drilled at Manhera Tibba and one at Ghotaru proved to be gas bearing.