

Raipur. The location of Dongergarh was changed to Raipur. The road borne stockyards at Katni and Bhopal were discontinued with the introduction of rail movement to stockyards. Later, Raipur rail borne stockyard was closed due to operational problems. In addition to these stockyards, CIL has been operation motional stockyards at Bhopal, Jabalpur, Katni, Satna, Maihar, Ratlam and Raipur to meet the requirements of consumers by distributing coal on ex-wagon basis.

(c) At present only Indore stockyard is functioning. Due to operations reasons the Gwalior stockyard has been suspended for the time being.

(d) The whole stockyard scheme was reviewed by an expert Committee appointed by CIL under the Chairmanship of Shri J. G. Kumaramangalam, former, Chairman, CMAL. Based on the recommendations of this Committee, 5 locations have been identified for opening of CIL stockyards in Madhya Pradesh, namely, Indore Gwalior, Raipur, Bhopal and Katni. Locations have been decided on the basis of demand potential of the small consumers in the command area, transport, logistic and economic viability of operating stockyards. Accordingly tenders have already been invited to open stockyards at Katni and Bhopal.

[*English*]

#### Ratio of LPC Agencies and Connections between Urban and Rural Areas

3942. SHRI CHANDRA KISHORE PATHAK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the ratio of cooking gas agencies between urban and rural areas in the country at present ;

(b) the ratio of cooking gas connections between urban and rural areas in the country ;

(c) the steps Government contemplate to encourage the use of cooking gas in rural areas and open more outlets and

sanction more Cooking gas connections in rural areas ; and

(d) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard and if so, what is the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b). While no LPG distributorships have been set up to make supplies to any rural area as such, some connections in areas close or contiguous to urban LPG markets do exist, the proportion of such connections, in the total customer population of around 1.0 lakhs being negligible.

(c) and (d). Considering the projections of LPC and bottling availability as well as the general policy of covering, in a phased manner, towns with a population of around 20,000 or more and capable of sustaining an economically viable distributorship, it is not proposed presently to market LPG in rural areas.

#### Purchase of Components from Foreign Countries

3943. SHRI ANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the components are being purchased from foreign market against foreign currency as the Mankapur unit is not in a position to produce the same as per production schedule ;

(b) if so, the estimated foreign exchange expenditure likely to be incurred during the years 1987 to 1990 ; and

(c) officers designated to make these purchases and the system for purchase ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b). The production and purchase of components from abroad, is proceeding by and large as per the approved phased production programme which was as follows :