THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Shortage of staff quarters is there in both hilly and plain areas. This is due to paucity of funds for construction as well as non-availability of land at some places.

(b) and (c). Guidelines have already been issued under which staff quarters can be constructed to achieve saticfaction upto 60% at a station in the hilly areas. Construction of state quarters, however, depends on the oprational requirements, availability of funds and sites for construction.

Assistance from World Bank Etc. for Construction of Power Projects in U. P.

4440. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Uttar Pradesh Government have submitted proposals to get financial assistance from some International Organisations including World Bank or from various countries for construction of some power projects; and

(b) if so, the names and the details of these power projects and the steps being taken by his Ministry to materialise these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Uttar Pradesh have, from time to time, suggested external financing of power projects in the State. These include Srinagar HEP (4×50 MW), Loharinagpala HEP (3×49 MW), Vishnu Prayag HEP (4×120 MW) and Unchahar Thermal Extension Project (2×210 MW). Anpara B Thermal Project (2×500 MW) is under implementation with Japanese assistance. Tehri and Srinagar Projects have been identified for bilateral assistance.

Trunk Calls from Dahod Telephone Exchange (Gujarat)

4441. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that trunk calls made from Dahod district Telephone Exchange in Gujarat do not materialise;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) whether P.C.Os have been installed in every village but those are not in working order and even when those function sometimes, one listens to the same conversation on each telephone ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) Public Telephones (PTs) have not been installed in every village of Dahod District. As in many villages there are very few calls from the PTs, a number of PTs are given on the same pair of wires. These are called tandem PTs. Each is in charge of a Post-master who is required to ensure that there is only one call in progress at a time. If some times they fail to do that, there would be overhearing which the users should avoid.

PTs in villages are given over long overhead-wires. These may be broken down in gales or by falling trees or over-laden carts and lorries. These are repaired at the earliest.

Acquisition of Land for Dahod Telepbone Exchange in Gujarat

4442. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that no attempts have been made to acquire land for Dahod Telephone Exchange in Gujarat for the last 6-7 years;

(b) whether the officers concerned of this Telephone Exchange have never applied to Union Government for acquiring land for the purpose;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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(d) whether they will now apply for acquiring land and if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) A place of land bearing Survey No. 99 is under negotiation with State Government (Gujarat).

(c) The question does not arise.

(d) Not applicable.

Shifting of LPG Godown from Rohtak Road, Delh i

4443. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of PETRO-LEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether after the fire incident in cooking gas godown at Punjabi Bagh, Shakurbasti, Rohtak Road, Delhi, Government propose to shift these godowns outside the populated areas;

(b). if so, the reasons for not taking any action for shifting these godowns from that areas so far; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take so that such incidents do not take place in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This plant is being relocated and a new bottling plant at Tikrikalan (Delhi) is under construction and it is expected to be completed in 1988.

(c) Following the accident at Indian Oil Corporation's Shakurbasti Bottling Plant in 1983, a Committee was set up and gave recommendations, about the safety requirements at bottling plants. In accordance with the recommendations, IOC's and BPCL's plants at Shakurbasti are being resited at Tikrikalan and Asoti respectively near Delhi. The Committee's recommendations are being observed in the bottling plants now being set up.

[English]

Denationalisation of Tennery and Footwear Corporation of India Ltd.

4444. SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Ltd. is proposed to be denationalised by inviting interested private firms to take it over; and

(b) the details of the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Increase in Production of HMT Watches

4445. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number and location of H.M.T. factories which are manufacturing watches in the country;

(b) the number of watches manufactured in each factory annually;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a great demand for H.M.T. watches in the country and in foreign countries also; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to increase the production of watches in those factories or installing new factories during the Seventh Five Year Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM): (a) HMT has Watch factories at locations indicated below: