

**Release of LPG Connections**

\*56 SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of LPG connections released during 1991 on out of turn basis; and

(b) the criteria followed therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) 59350.

(b) (i) On the recommendations of Members of Parliament.

(ii) At the discretion of the Government.

**Konkan Railway Project**

\*57. SHRI RAMESH CHENNIHALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Konkan Railway Corporation is executing the work of the Konkan railway project as per schedule ;

(b) the present stage of the project; and

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to extend this railway line from Mangalore to Sabarimala in Kerala ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir. . .

(b) Work from both ends and at a number of locations in between has been started. Two sections : Mangalore-Ldupi (68 km) and Roha-Dasgaon (47 km) are expected to be ready in 1992-93.

(c) No, Sir.

**Talcher Super Thermal Power Plant**

\*58. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :

SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN :

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Super Thermal Power Plant at Talcher in Orissa is progressing according to the schedule;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken or proposed to be taken for its timely completion;

(c) whether there is any need for upward revision of the estimate of this project due to delay in work and price rise ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The original approved cost of the project in November, 1988 (at June, 1988 price) was Rs. 1480.85 crores. The NTPC have submitted to the Government a revised Draft Project Report at a project cost of Rs. 2047.40 crores in April, 1991 (at March, 1991 price). The proposed revision of cost is not due to delay in work, but because of price rise, exchange rate variation, scope change and change in duties and taxes etc.