

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is manual system of telephones in Giridih (Bihar) which is the main producing centre of mica;

(b) whether construction work of building etc. to provide direct dialling system has been completed;

(c) if so, when;

(d) the reasons for delay in introducing direct dialling system; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A 600 line manual exchange with 551 working connections is working at Giridih (Bihar).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Building was completed in 1975.

(d) The delay is due to non receipt of stores. The equipments are being productionised recently.

(e) By the middle of 7th Plan.

[English]

LPG Stoves on Sale in Market

6510. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of LPG stoves of different design are in the market;

(b) whether Indian Oil and other companies supplying LPG, have approved these designs;

(c) if so, the list of approved designs; and

(d) if not, whether consumers are facing any risk in using any of these designs ?

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

(b) and (c). Under the current policy, only such stoves as have an ISI certification are marketed through the LPG distributors of the oil companies. An LPG connection is released by the distributor only after ensuring that the consumer has a stove with ISI certification.

(d) Does not arise.

Video Text Transmission Facilities

Using Telephone Wire

6511. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to provide video text transmission facilities using telephone wire;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether specialised equipment for this is needed; and

(d) if so, from where this will be obtained ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) There are plans for making a beginning for establishing videotex (not videotext) service during the later years of the Seventh Plan or in the Eighth Plan, depending on the availability of resources.

(b) The service is for retrieval of information from computers set up for this purpose for giving information service of general interest to the public by getting access to the computers through the normal telephone lines and getting the information display in home TV sets. The information in the computer is updated by the information providers directly.

(c) and (d). For provision of such a service, standardisation in respect of home TV sets for taking videotex service, numerical, key board etc., will be involved in addition to setting up of videotex computers accessible through the public telephone network and a dedicated data network which is to be set up. The required equipment will be obtained partly from indigenous and partly from imported sources.