Conversion of Telephone Exchanges into Electronic Exchanges in Bangalore City

1433. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of electronic telephone exchanges in Bangalore city;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to convert the existing exchanges into electronic exchanges; and
- (c) if so, the telephone exchanges which are proposed to be converted into electronic exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Nil.

- (b) Yes, Sir, as and when the existing exchange equipments complete their useful life.
- (c) 7000 lines of Bangalore Central and 2000 lines of Peenya will be replaced by electronic exchanges during the 7th Plan period.

[Translation]

Gas Pipeline in Agra

1434. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to put up a gas pipeline in Agra; and
- (b) if so, whether industries in that region will have adequate gas supply to switch over from use of coal, which is necessary for protection of Taj and other monuments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Views of Government of West Bengal on setting up an All India Power Corporation

- 1435. SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government of West Bengal have communicated to the Union Government the views of the State Government to set up an All-India Power Corporation more or less on the same pattern as the Rural Electrification Corporation;
- (b) if so, the views of the State Government thereon;
- (c) the reasons, if the proposal has not been welcomed by the State Government; and
- (d) the contemplation of the Union Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) There is no proposal under Government's consideration to set up an All India Power Corporation.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Selection of Chief Executives and Directors in Public Sector Enterprises

1436. SHRI BHOLANATH SEN: SHRI AMAL DATTA: PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some posts of Chief Executives and Directors are lying vacant in some public sector enterprises;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) since when these posts are lying vacant and the reasons for delay in filling these posts;
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to fill up these vacant posts; and