

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The villages Chaunaliya and Syauni in district Almora are not eligible for Long Distance Public Call Offices on subsidized basis under the existing policy.

Branch Post Offices in Almora District (U.P.)

3278. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the places in Almora district in Uttar Pradesh where branch post offices are proposed to be opened during 1985-86 ;

(b) whether all the branch post offices sanctioned earlier for this district have been opened ; and

(c) if so, the names of the places where these have been opened ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No branch post offices are proposed to be opened in Almora district of Uttar Pradesh during 1985-86.

(b) During 1984-85 also, no branch post office could be sanctioned in the district on account of the ban on creation of posts.

(c) Does not arise.

Opening of Petrol-Diesel outlets at Pithoragarh U.P.

3279. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal for opening a petrol-diesel retail outlet at Lohaghat in Pithoragarh district in Uttar Pradesh had been found feasible by his Ministry ;

(b) if so, whether the Indian Oil Corporation had held any interview for the selection of candidates for the purpose ;

(c) if so, whether this outlet has started functioning ; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay and when this outlet will start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b), (c) and (d). The Oil Selection Board (North) has held interviews for this retail outlet and a Letter of Intent has been issued to the selected candidate. The outlet is expected to be commissioned in the next few months after completion of the prescribed formalities.

[English]

Expansion of Borivallee (Bombay) Telephone Exchange

3280. SHRI ANOOP CHAND SHAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to open one more telephone exchange at Borivallee ;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof,

(c) whether there is any proposal to expand the present exchange of Borivallee (Bombay) ;

(d) if so, when ; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. One new exchange of 6000 lines capacity is proposed to be commissioned in 89-90 at Borivallee.

(c) to (e). Yes, Sir. Expansion work from 4,000 to 5,000 lines is already in progress for commissioning by May, 1986.

Increase in Commission Paid to LPG Distributors

3281. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH : SHRI VISHNU MODI :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the cost of LPG has gone up by 307 per cent from 1960 to 1985 ;