

(e) if so, the details thereof with particular reference to Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (e). Solar powered cold storage technology has been developed in the country. Two such cold storage plants of capacities 30 tone and 10 tons have been installed at padorna in Uttar Pradesh and Baroda in Gujarat respectively. Currently the performance of these plants is being monitored. Based on the performance and the cost economics of these plants, decision for putting up larger number of such plants for preservation of variety of perishable commodities in different parts of the country may be taken

Committee on Major Thermal Power Stations

890 SHRI G. BHOOPATHY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a special committee has been appointed by Government to select places to establish major thermal power stations in the country; and

(b) if so, the names of the places selected for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) and (b). In March 1988, the Department of Power has constituted a Committee for selection of sites for setting up large thermal power stations. The Committee is to submit its report within a year.

[*Translation*]

Opening of Gas Agencies in Chambal Division

891. SHRI KAMMODILAI JATAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATU-

RAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open LPG agencies in each development block in Chambal Division keeping in view the shortage of wood and coal there; and

(b) if so, the time by which these are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) The oil industry is normally taking up, in a phased manner, locations in the country including those in Chambal Division of Madhya Pradesh, with a population of around 20,000 and above (as per 1981 Census) which offer sufficient potential for viable marketing of LPG. Based on this policy the oil industry has planned to open two LPG distributorships one each at Sabaigarh (Samaigarh) and Ambah in Chambal Division;

(b) As various steps precede the actual commissioning of LPG distributorships, it is not possible to indicate the exact time by which these distributorships would be commissioned.

[*English*]

S.T.D. Facility in Rajnandgaon

892. SHRI SHIVENDRA BHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which Rajnandgaon district will get electronic exchange, and

(b) the time by which the STD facility will be made available there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Rajnandgaon at present has MAX-II exchange with 700