

(ii) Allocations of high speed diesel and kerosene to the States and Union Territories have been increased for the month of March, 1980.

(iii) Improvement in the rail movement of petroleum products is being effected by pressing more tank wagons into service reducing the turn around time of tank wagons and according a higher priority to the movement of those wagons over goods and passenger services.

(iv) During March, 1980 road-bridging of products is also being maximised.

(v) Utilizing the Haldia-Barauni-Kanpur pipelines for the movement of kerosene and diesel to the maximum extent.

(vi) Advising the State Governments to regulate the distribution of diesel and kerosene under the Essential Commodities Act and the rules and Orders framed thereunder and to take stern action against those indulging in hoarding and blackmarketing. The State Governments have also been advised to consider invoking the provisions of the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act for prevention of those malpractices.

#### **Telephone Service in Asansol, Burnpur etc.**

673. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to improve the telephone service of Asansol, Burnpur, Kulti, Raniganj, Durgapur area; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): (a) A review was made by Senior Telecom. Officers about the telephone ser-

vices of these areas. They have identified the problems and recommended solutions to improve the situation. After these steps have been taken the services have improved to a certain extent.

(b) The following steps have been taken to improve the situation:—

1. Posting of a trained officer as Officer-in-charge, and adequate trained staff for the maintenance of the trunk automatic exchange.

2. Attending to faults of the Central A/C Plant of Asansol TAX and commissioning of additional room air-conditioners to augment the air-conditioning capacity of the A/C Plant so that the exchange equipment functions properly.

3. Procurement of essential spares required by Asansol TAX on a special footing.

4. Improvement of the maintenance of Asansol TAX, Asansol MAX-I and other exchanges in this area, by systematic routine maintenance and fault clearance cycles.

As a result of this, further improvement is expected.

#### **Proper Use of Plot of Land in Shanti Niketan Colony, New Delhi**

674. SHRI NIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 131 on the 9th July, 1979 re: land in Shanti Niketan Colony, New Delhi reserved for School building as a place of public convenience and state:

(a) the progress so far made in putting this plot to proper use;

(b) whether over the last more than 10 years, it is still being used as a place of public convenience both for humans and bovines thus causing constant environmental hazard apart from serving as a rendezvous for un-social elements;