

new refineries will be reviewed at the time of preparation of the Revised Estimates for 1983-84.

(b) The preliminary feasibility reports in respect of the new refineries to be set up in Karnal and Mangalore have been received recently by the Government from the Indian Oil Corporation Limited and the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited respectively. These are under consideration. Based on the demand projections for petroleum products within the country these new refineries are scheduled for completion during the Seventh Plan.

Wrong Telephone Billing

10922. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted on wrong phone billing ;

(b) if so, the names of the cities where such survey has been conducted ; and

(c) the details of the sample survey report conducted, if any?

DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL):

(a) No survey has been made.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Issue of Gas Connections for Unmarried Girls

10923. SHRI ANWAR AHMED : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(b) whether Government had issued any instructions to the effect that new gas connection could be booked for young unmarried girls ; if so the full details thereof ; and

(b) the details of the steps taken by Government to ensure that such unmarried girls get LPG connections in their names positively before their marriage on a priority basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

Non-Extension of E.P.F. Act to the Employees of Malawar Chemicals, Kerala

10924. SHRI R.P. YADAV :

SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADUKAR :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Malawar Chemicals Kerala is having a large number of branches all over India including Bangalore and if so, what are the details thereof ;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large number of employees including their medical representatives have not been admitted to Provident Fund membership ;

(c) whether it is a fact that this is a defaulting establishment under the E.P.F. Act, and the owners of this establishment are out to defeat the social legislation by not admitting several hundred employees ; and

(d) whether in view of the above Government propose to take immediate action to secure full compliance ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) According to provident fund authorities M/s Malawar Chemicals Company, Palghat is having to branches at New Delhi and Bangalore. In addition, they have 30 dealers cannot, however, be treated as branches of the said establishment for the purpose of coverage under the E.P.F. and M.P. Act, 1952.

(b) to (d) The establishment is reported to have denied the provident fund benefits to 16 of its eligible employees. The establishment is also reported to have defaulted in remittance of Provident Fund contributions amounting to Rs. 32,033.25 for the period upto 9/82. It has also not paid the dues for the period October, 1982 onwards. The provident fund authorities are taking necessary action under the Act to get the eligible employees enrolled as provident fund subscribers from the due dates and to assess/recover the areas of dues.

Criticism of National Programme

10925. SHRI J.S. PALIL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the introduction of the National Programme of the Doordarshan network all over the country has met with protests from viewers from all the important Kendras like Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Lucknow, etc.

(b) If so, the nature of the criticism voiced by the viewers, i.e. whether it pertained to the duration of the national programme, its timing, the consequential curtailment of the programmes in the regional languages of the concerned Kendras or quality of the programmes generally; and

(c) If so the manner in which the various points listed above were tackled by government in respect of each Kendra from where protests were received?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN : (a) to (c) The points referred to in the question have been discussed at length in various forms, including both House of the Parliament. The relevant details are given in the statement attached.

STATEMENT

It has been Doordarshan's endeavour to telecast quality programmes of interest and appeal to the nation as a whole. Simultaneous telecast of a daily common programme over the entire TV network became possible with the launching of the Indian National Satellite and the commissioning of P & T Department's microwave system. The objectives and broad plans of this programme were discussed at the Conference of the State Information Ministers held in July, 1982. The Conference welcomed the proposal to start the National Programme on Doordarshan daily from 15th August, 1982 mainly in Hindi and English to be telecast from all transmitters in the country. It was agreed that the transmission time for regional programmes would not be affected by the introduction of the National Programme. Accordingly, Doordarshan commenced telecast of a common National Programme, including two 15-minute national news bulletins one each in Hindi and English, over

its entire network of 20 transmitters from 15th August, 1982. The National Programme includes a variety of selected items of good quality from different regions with emphasis on national integration, communal harmony, family welfare, our struggle for independence, cultural heritage, national music and dance programmes including folk dances, science programmes, current affairs, sports, youth programmes, etc. Due representation is given to the programmes in various regional languages though the emphasis is on visuals. The national news bulletins also include segments and visuals fed by the regional Kendras. The National Programme is now being telecast over all the 41 transmitters of Doordarshan which include 7 Kendras having full-fledged programme production facilities, namely, Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, Lucknow, Jalandhar and Srinagar. A substantial portion of the National Programme is being telecast in colour.

In the beginning, the National Programme was being telecast for a period of 1½ hours daily from 8.00 P.M. At present, too, this the duration of the National Programme. However, keeping in view the suggestion from general viewers as well as some state Governments the commencement time has been shifted from 8.00 P.M. to 8.30 P.M. so that more of the prime viewing time (from 7.00 P.M. to 9.00 P.M.) may be available for regional programmes. The telecast time of the individual regional Kendras has also been increased to ensure that the transmission time of programmes in the main languages of various regions is not curtailed. From Doordarshan Kendra, Madras the national news in Hindi is not being telecast from November, 1982 and this Kendra joins the network at 8.45 P.M. instead of 8.30 P.M.

After the introduction of the National Programme, the richness and variety of programmes of various regional Kendras got incorporated in the National Programme and reached a wider audience, thus helping the cause of national integration. In our country, which is so full of diversity and variety, programmes broadcast over the media have to reflect the regional personality and also serve the national identity.

However, to allay apprehension expressed in some States, the Chief Ministers of the

States having full-fledged Doordarshan Kendras have been requested to offer their valued suggestions on various aspects of the National Programme and its duration. Suggestions have been received from four out of six Ministers. It is Government's intention to consider the suggestions of the Chief Ministers and also hold discussion with them for evolving a new format for the National Programme.

Expenditure on Foreign Tours by ONGC Officers

10926. SHRI SURAJ BHAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) number of ONGC officers and their designations who went on foreign tours in the last three years and the expenditure so incurred ;

(b) number of class III and class IV employees transferred in the last 3 years and expenditure so incurred ; and

(c) steps being taken to minimise these expenditures ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Telephone Facilities to Police Stations of District Varanasi and Ghazipur.

10927. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that telephone facilities are not available in 20 police stations of Varanasi district and most of the police stations of Ghazipur and the people have to go to the nearby places to book trunk calls ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in the absence of telephone facility at the above places, sometimes it takes a week to convey most urgent messages at the places ; and

(c) if the answers to the above parts by in the affirmative, the details of immediate action taken by Government to overcome this difficulty ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL) : (a) No, Sir. All villages with Police Stations under the charge of Sub Inspector and above ranks in Varanasi District have been provided with Long Distance Public Telephones (LDPTs). However, L.D.P.Ts. at Eight Police Stations are not yet installed due to material and finance resource constraints, at Ghazipur district.

(b) No comments.

(c) Materials required for providing of telephone facility at eight Police Stations in Ghazipur District are being arranged.

Flaring up of Bombay High Gas

10928. SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that authorities have been taken unawares because of the crude production which have been beyond expectation and in the process gives out associated gas which is now being flared as no arrangement could be made for their use in the Bombay High area ;

(b) whether studies have been made as to how this gas is being utilised in foreign countries ;

(c) whether in the eastern region the position has become so acute that OIL has no other alternative than to reinject the gas into the ground ; and

(d) if so, what immediate steps are being contemplated to check this colossal loss ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir. The utilisation of increased production of associated gas due to enhanced production of crude oil was planned in advance and sufficient