

कितने कर्मचारी होंगे और यह कब से काम प्रारम्भ करेगा।

ऊर्जा मंत्रालय के पेट्रोलियम विभाग में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री गार्गी शंकर मिश्र): (क) जी, नहीं। परन्तु आयोग ने एक इन्जीनियरी और समुद्र प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान स्थापित करने का निर्णय लिया है।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

#### Indians Sent Back from Middle East Countries

1538. SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many Indians are facing serious unemployment and other problems in the Middle East Countries ;

(b) the total number of Indian sent back from Middle East Countries (country-wise) since 1982 ; and

(c) what are the facilities given to these Indians to reach home and any resettlement scheme for these Indians in India ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VEER-  
ENDRA PATIL) : (a) Indians are not facing serious unemployment problems in Middle East countries since Indian emigrants going to these countries have firm employment contracts and valid employment visas. A few Indians do face other problems but their complaints are promptly dealt with by our Missions abroad and the Department of Labour in India,

(b) Normally Indians come back on completion of the contract period. In few cases, services have been terminated before completion of the contract period but one month's notice and return air fare are generally given by the employer.

Following specific instances have, however, come to the notice of the Government ;—

(i) About 1000 Indian workers, who were staying illegally in Kuwait, returned to India voluntarily between September and December, 1982 following the announcement of an Amnesty ;

(ii) 876 striking workers employed by an Indian construction company in Iraq returned between 4th and 7th February, 1983, These workers were deported by Iraqi authorities under local law.

(iii) 1275 Indians were sent back from Bahrain in 1982. 1085 Indians have been sent back from the United Arab Emirates by sea since 1982.

(c) Indians returning home after the termination of their contract are given return air fare by the employers. Those Indian destitutes who are stranded in Middle East countries are given full consular assistance by our local Missions. At present there are no resettlement schemes for returning Indian emigrants.

#### Solar Energy on Commercial Scale

1539. SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state whether India has succeeded in topping the energy of sun and whether Government are ready to produce it on commercial scale to ease the situation resulting out of scarcity of firewood for cooking in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR) : Devices and systems working on solar energy such as solar cookers, solar hot water systems, solar dryers, solar desalination systems and solar wood seasoning systems have been developed in India. Over a dozen manufacturers have started manufacturing solar hot water systems for applications in the domestic and industrial sectors. Since tapping of solar energy, technologically and commercially, is a continuing activity, efforts in this direction will continue. In order to propagate the use of solar cookers, Government is giving a subsidy of 33-1/3% to a maximum of Rs. 150/-. For reducing the consumption of fuel wood efforts are being made to propagate the use of solar cookers all over the country. These cookers are being manufactured and marketed in 12 States and Union Territories of the country.

#### Opening of New Telephone exchanges in Bombay

1540. SHRI J. S. PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state ;