

(d) if so the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) if not, whether the Government propose to invite any proposals in this regard in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA): (a) As on November 1, 1990 there were about 6,057 LPG consumers and about 1,800 persons on waiting list for new LPG connections in Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) New LPG connections are released all over the country in a phased manner, under the annual programme for enrolment of customers, subject to availability of LPG. The availability is further augmented through enhanced production and imports.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(d) Does not arise.

(c) Locations for additional gas agencies are included in the LPG Marketing plans, depending on potential to establish viable distributorships and availability of product.

Conversion of Balaghat-Katangi and Tirodi-Tummsar Railway Lines

2055. SHRI KANKAR MUNJARE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert all metre gauge lines into broad gauge lines;

(b) whether it is proposed to convert Balaghat-Katangi and Tirodi-Tummsar lines into broad gauge;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which survey work is likely to be conducted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). A survey was carried out in 1980 for conversion of Jabalpur-Gondia section along with Balaghat-Katangi Branch (278 km) from NG to BG. The project was found to be financially unremunerative and could not be taken up. The survey has been updated recently and the rate of return has still been found as negative.

The Railway has been advised in August '90 to extend the scope of the survey conducted for conversion of Jabalpur Gondia section along with Balaghat-Katangi Branch from NG to BG upto Chandrapur so that establishment of a meaningful alternative North-South route can be considered.

Tirodi-Tummsar is already a B.G. line.

(d) As the Railway already has a number of important surveys on hand, this survey ordered recently will also take some time to complete.

[English]

Energy saving devices

2056. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified energy saving devices available in international market if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the total demand of coal by the power sector during 1989-90 and 1990-91