

been completed by the Central Electricity Authority.

(d) The expected annual energy output from the proposed tidal power project in the Gulf of Kachchh is 1690 Million Kwh.

(e) and (f). The cost of generation of energy from the proposed tidal power plant in the Gulf of Kachchh has been estimated to be 96 paise/Kwh, at December, 1987 price level. The average cost of generation from conventional hydro and thermal power projects, based on the projects recently appraised by CEA is as under:-

Hydro: 50 paise to 85 paise/ Kwh

Thermal: 75 paise to Rs. 1.25/ Kwh

ONGC Projects Cleared

[*English*]

2052. SHRI MANIK SANYAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the News-item captioned "ONGC project cleared" appearing in the Financial Express (New Delhi edition) dated 7 December, 1990; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is a fact that ONGC's projects for the development of L-II and L-III reservoirs in Bombay High field have been cleared by the Public Investment Board and recommended for approval to Government. It is also true that the projects would help to stop the flaring of associated gas in Bombay High

and components of the projects have been appraised for financing by the World Bank.

Overbridges in Kerala

2053. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new railway overbridges proposed to be constructed in Kerala during 1990-91;

(b) the total cost of the over bridges; and

(c) the Railways' share of the cost of construction of the overbridges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS): (a) Four numbers at Punkunnam, Wadakancheri (Mullurcarai), Tirupunithura and Badagara.

(b) Rs. 600. 14 lakhs.

(c) Rs. 253. 15 Lakhs.

[*Translation*]

Waiting List of LPG connections and LPG agencies in Balaghat, Madhya Pradesh

2054. SHRI KANKAR MUNJARE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG consumers in Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh alongwith the number of persons on the waiting list;

(b) the steps taken to clear the waiting list;

(c) whether any proposal to set up additional gas agencies in Balaghat district is under consideration of the Government;

(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