- (v) Shri M.G. Pargi, Telecom Office Assistance, Office of D.E.T., Baroda.
- (vi) Shri Om Dutt Tyagi, Divisional Engineer Telegraphs, Rajkot.
- (c) (i) Disciplinary action for major penalty has been instituted against Shri J.I. Vaswada, Shri R.P. Vasani and Shri Om Dutt Tyagi (Sl. No. (i), (ii) and (vi) in (b) above).
 - (ii) Regular Departmental action against Shri A.A. Siddique (Sl. No. (iii) in (b) above).
 - (iii) Case against Shri A.I. Baval and Shri M.G. Pargi (Sl. No. (iv) and (v) in (b) above is under trial in the Court).

Spreader Project of Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd.

*174. SHRIH.N. NANJE GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the schedule for completion of the Spreader Project of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd.;
- (b) whether the progress of the project is as per schedule;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof;
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken or proposed to complete the project as per schedule?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (e). The first 20,000 tonne/hour Spreader of the Second Mine Expansion project of Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. was scheduled to be commis-

sioned by 10-4-89 and the second by 10-8-89. The suppliers of these spreaders have requested NLC for extension of time for commissioning by 6-8 months on various grounds like difficulties in procuring special steels, in indigenising certain components and law and order situation in Neyveli area. The request is under consideration.

Formulation of Energy Conservation Policy

- *175. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry has made any recommendations to Union Government on formulation of an energy conservation policy and the need to propagate the concept of energy conservation through development of new techniques;
- (b) if so, what are the major recommendations made:
- (c) whether the recommendations of PHDCCI have been examined and any preliminaries worked out in that regard; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) Government have seen reports to this effect in the Press. The Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) have also requested the Government for import duty concessions on certain energy saving equipments.

(b) The recommendations made by PHDCCI include elimination of wastage of energy through its efficient management, implementation of the measures identified from time to time for energy conservation,

promotion of captive generation and combined cycle projects and giving incentives for introduction of energy saving equipments.

Written Answers

(c) and (d). Energy Conservation has been accorded a National priority. Efforts taken in this direction include dissemination of useful information to various energy using sectors; organising seminars and workshops for training of managers; undertaking model energy audits in industries; assessing the effectiveness of existing incentive schemes and considering enlarging the scope thereof to induce industries to adopt energy conservation measures; fixation of annual energy consumption target for energy intensive industries and over-seeing the results on a continued basis.

[Translation]

Allotment of LPG Agencies and Petrol Pumps in Bihar

*176. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of people who have been allotted petrol pumps and LPG agencies in Bihar and the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes among them;
- (b) whether it has come to the notice of Government that some agencies have been taken benami in the name of Scheduled Castes; and
- (c) if so, the number of such cases and the action taken in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) Since the inception in 1980-81 of the annual marketing plans, the number of Retail Outlets and LPG distributorships allotted in Bihar are as below:

| ************************************** | Total No. allotted | SC | ST |
|--|--------------------|----|----|
| Retail Outlets | 230 | 43 | 15 |
| LPG | 97 | 18 | 8 |

- (b) The oil companies have not come across any such instance;
 - (c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

[English]

American Collaboration in Energy Sector

- *177. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any collaboration in the energy sector has been signed with U.S.A.;

- (b) whether there was any offer in the sector from USA; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c). Under the bilateral cooperation in Science and Technology, a project titled 'Alternative Energy Resources Development (AERD) was taken up in 1982. An agreement for this project was signed between the Government of India and USAID on 30th June 1982 involving US \$ 5 million as USAID contribution for this project and \$ 2 million have been added