[English]

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PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The rates of kerosene and diesel and petrol on the other side have a lot of difference between them. In the Second World War to avoid adulteration it was insisted that some colour should be added to kerosene so that whenever kerosene is added to either diesel or petrol, it can be detected. In many countries that experiment has succeeded and prevented adulteration. Will the Minister try that experiment in our country so as to produce similar results?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: The issue of developing suitable additive that can be added in kerosene to enable easy detection of admixture of kerosene in MS/ HSD has been under consideration of Government. For the past several years, we have tried it, but it has not succeeded. It has not yielded results and we are now going in for dopping furfural in kerosene. This experiment is going on and there are problems with regard to this also. If and when we are certain that this furfural doping in kerosene would be an effective check, we would certainly try it.

Digital Electronic Telephone Exchange

- *844. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the first digital electronic telephone exchange has been installed in the country;
 - (b) if so, where and when;
- (c) the name of the company from whom it was obtained and the quality of the equipment; and
- (d) whether it has been working satisfactorily since installation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At Bombay-Worli, on 10th April, 1985.

(c) and (d). The equipment was obtained from M/s. CIT-Alcatel, France. The quality and working of the equipment is generally satisfactory.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: answer given by the Minister does not seem to be quite satisfactory. So, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the exchange was to commence working in 1984 August, but this has been done so in 1985 April. If so, I would like to know the reasons for the delay.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: was the first exchange to be introduced in our system and being of the latest digital type, we wanted that very stringent acceptance test should be adopted before it is really accepted. Then there were problems regarding air-conditioning, etc., which again set back the programme by some months. So, the time taken in completing the acceptance test has been a little high. It is because we were introducing it for the first time and we were not taking any chance with regard to the acceptance test and the stringent measures that we wanted to adopt.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Sir, is it a fact that under the agreement with the French firm, 22 more sets have been imported? And is Government going to import ten more, in view of its experience with regard to the working of the equipment being generally satisfactory?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: One of the agreements that was entered while accepting this technology was that we would import 200 thousand lines of this system to be used in our country, and these 200 thousand lines are being installed right now. I will list out the places where the work is being done, in Delhi, in Calcutta and other places. I think this agreement was part of agreement the original and we are implementing it, in this manner.

Marine Effective Economic Zone

- *845 SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:
- (a) the surface area of the Marine Effective Economic Zone;