

52,201 and 4,711 persons on the waiting list for LPG connections in Andhra Pradesh and Hyderabad districts respectively;

(b) Release of LPG connections is done by the oil industry all over the country, including in Andhra Pradesh, in a phased manner under its annual programme for enrolment of customers, subject to augmentation in availability of LPG;

(c) The oil industry has introduced LPG facility in 155 towns/cities of Andhra Pradesh till June 30, 1988;

(d) Upto the LPG Marketing Plan 1988-89, the oil industry has planned to provide LPG facility in 24 more towns/cities in Andhra Pradesh through 37 new LPG distributors. Further, the oil industry is normally-taking up, in a phased manner, for LPG distribution locations in the country, including in Andhra Pradesh, with population of around 20,000 and above (as per 1981 census) which offer sufficient potential for viable marketing of LPG.

Imports by the Department of Telecommunications

456). SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether global tenders which are floated by the Department are not advertised in the Indian news-

papers thus depriving the opportunity to the Indian suppliers;

(b) how many times global tenders have been issued in 1988 and not advertised in the Indian newspapers and what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Department and its undertakings can seek major supplies exceeding five crores of rupees in value from abroad without tenders;

(d) what is the maximum value limit for purchase orders on foreign suppliers without tenders; and

(e) what are the reasons for untendered purchases from abroad?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. All global tenders are advertised in Indian journals.

(b) Nil.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No separate limit has been prescribed to procure items proprietary in nature.

(e) Untendered purchases from abroad are done only in the case of proprietary items e.g. Spares and items required for expanding the originally imported equipment.

Production Targets of Petroleum and Natural Gas in Andhra Pradesh

456). SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA : Will the