

HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The Board of

Directors as presently constituted is as follows:—

1. Shri D.K. Sangal, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications Part-time Chairman
2. Shri K.P. Geetakrishnan, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs Part-time Director
3. Shri R. Parameswar, Additional Secretary, Department of Administrative Reforms Part-time Director
4. Shri K.R. Parameswar, Adviser (I&M) Planning Commission Part-time Director
5. Dr. N. Seshagiri, Additional Secretary, Department of Electronics Part-time Director
6. Shri M.P. Agarwala, Member (Telecom. Operation), Department of Telecommunications Part-time Director
7. Shri V. Devarajan, Member (Finance), Department of Telecommunications Part-time Director
8. Shri C.K. Reddi, Member (Telecom. Personnel), Department of Telecommunications Part-time Director
9. Shri M.P. Shukla Managing Director

(b) The area of operation of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam will be the Union Territory of Delhi, the Bombay Municipal Corporation, New Bombay Municipal Corporation, and Thane Municipal Corporation.

The Corporation will be functioning under the administrative control of the Telecommunications Board. It will operate on the basis of a licence issued by the Telegraph Authority.

(c) The Corporation has started functioning with effect from 1-4-1986 only. The question about the number of officers who will be transferred to the Corporation permanently will be decided in due course after taking option from the employees and officers.

(d) The terms and conditions which will be applicable to the employees and officers who are transferred finally to the Corporation on permanent basis are yet to be finalised and will be done by the Nigam in due course.

Inadequate safety measures in LPG cylinders

*93. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY:

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

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

(a) the number of accidents which took place in the country during the year 1985-86 due to inadequate safety measures in the LPG cylinders and other appliances;

(b) the measures being taken to evolve the improved quality of cylinder valves, and pressure regulators so as to minimise accidents; and

(c) whether any proposals for import of latest technology are being considered for this purpose, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) to (c) A total number of 172 LPG accidents occurring for various reasons was reported in 1985-86. The investigation reports which the oil marketing companies send in each case to the Chief Controller of Ex-

plosives show that LPG accidents are generally caused due to ignition of escaped LPG mostly resulting from negligence or mishandling at the customer's premises of equipment like rubber hose, stove knob, pressure regulator etc. The oil marketing companies are procuring only ISI certified LPG cylinders, valves and regulators, while distributors are under instructions to release a new connection only on ensuring that the consumer has an ISI certified stove. All such ISI certified equipment has in-built safety characteristics.

Oil drilling at Thevur

*94. DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA:

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

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

(a) whether the oil drilling at Thevur off Nagapattinam has commenced; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of other spots, where oil drilling has been going on in the past in Tamil Nadu;

(c) the details of the outcome of each such drilling and also the amount spent for each drilling; and

(d) the number of such oil wells which are expected to be drilled in the Cauvery belt in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The well Thevur-1 was spudded on 20-3-86 and has reached a depth of 1401 mts on 17-4-86, against a target depth of 3500 mts.

(b) 23 wells have been drilled so far at 14 different places in onshore Cauvery Basin.

(c) Oil/gas was discovered at Karaikal, Kovilkallapal and Nari-manam besides minor hydrocarbon indications at Madnam and Tira-

varur. The cost of completed wells where accounts have been finalised ranges from Rs. 11 lakhs to Rs. 218 lakhs.

(d) During 1986-87, it is proposed to drill 5 wells onland and 2 wells offshore in Cauvery Basin.

*95. [Transferred to the 6th May, 1986]

Telephone exchange at Pasighat

*96. SHRIMATI OMEM MOYONG DEORI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under their consideration to expand the existing telephone exchange at Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh and to commission a microwave exchange there; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) There is a proposal to install a 200-lines medium type automatic exchange in place of existing 100 lines MAX-III type exchange at Pasighat. There is no proposal to install a microwave exchange.

Report of the Arjun Sengupta Committee on public sector enterprises

*97. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) when the report of the Arjun Sengupta Committee on the state of health of the public sector enterprises containing suggestions for their remedial measures was received by Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that in a press interview he announced that the Sengupta Committee report would