

gement even by way of a reply in regard to his new invention and novel project;

(c) whether Government have made any indepth study into the use of Koir Pyth Stove made out of GI Sheet; and

(d) whether Government consider his invention as successful, in view of the energy crisis the country is facing?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (d) A proposal from Sri Venkatesa & Co. Tiruchirappalli signed by Shri A.T.R. Swamy was received in this Department on 2.5.86 requesting for the approval of Sri Venkatesa & Co.'s Coir Pyth Stove. Shri Venkatesa & Co. was requested on 25-5-86 to get the efficiency of this stove tested by the Central Power Research and the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi. This letter was acknowledged by Sri Venkatesa & Co. on 24.6.86 confirming that all documents had been sent to the two institutions. As per the policy of the Department, a new stove can be approved for propagation under the National Programme of Improved Chulha if its efficiency is certified to be above 20 per cent by at least two independent scientific institutions designated by the Department. Accordingly, the company was requested to get the efficiency of these stoves tested at the two above mentioned institutes. The report from the Central Power Research Institute, Bangalore shows that the efficiency of the "Sri Venkatesa and Co. Coir Pyth Stove" is 9.8 per cent. The report from IIT Delhi is awaited.

Supply of LPG Cylinders to Five Star Hotels etc.

1713. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any regulations to accord priority for supply

of LPG refills to Five-Star hotels, hospitals and hostels;

(b) whether it is fact that these institutions are finding it difficult to get the refills in time; and

(c) the measures being taken by Government to ease the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (c) Normally no priority in supply of LPG refills is given to five-star hotels, hospitals and hostels. However during periods of sustained backlog, dealers are advised to accord priority in supply of refills to hospitals, hostels and hotels who may not find it possible to use alternative fuels.

(b) There have been no serious complaints in this regard.

Fazilka Telephone Exchange

1714. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to convert the manual telephone exchange at Fazilka in Punjab into MAX-II Electronic type exchange;

(b) whether the Municipal Committee Fazilka has agreed to provide land required for this purpose;

(c) whether it is a fact that the residents of Fazilka were assured by Government of expeditious execution of the proposal;

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard and what are the reasons for the delay in this regard; and

(e) by when the MAX-II Electronic type telephone exchange is likely to be commissioned at Fazilka?