

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL): (a) Number of new telephone exchanges opened is 35 in Gujarat for the year 1983-84. Number of net new connections given in Gujarat during 1983-84 is a little over 12,000.

(b) No, Sir. The matter is under consideration,

(c) Direct connection of Lodhika Telephone Exchange to Rajkot will be considered when the trunk traffic increases sufficiently to justify provision of direct route.

Conversion of Tidal Ocean Waves into Energy

794. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA; Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various schemes are under consideration for converting of tidal ocean waves into energy in various parts of the country including Gujarat; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) The possibilities of tidal power development have so far been identified at three locations in the country, namely the Gulf of Kutch and the Gulf of Cambay on the West Coast in Gujarat and the SH in West Bengal.

Tidal power development possibilities are being pursued in the Gulf of Kutch and investigations and studies which could lead to the preparation of a feasibility report for a tidal power project in that area, are in progress. The revised project report envisages completion of the studies and preparation of techno-economic feasibility report by March, 1987.

Supply of power to Bihar from Farakka Thermal Power Project

795. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI SURAJ PRASAD;

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bihar will not get power from the first unit of Farakka Thermal Power Project likely to be commissioned by the end of the Sixth Five-Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Do not arise.

Petroleum Refinery in Arunachal Pradesh

796. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV:

SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR;

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that oil deposits have been found in Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government of Arunachal Pradesh has demanded for the establishment of a refinery in the Union Territory;

(c) if so, what is the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government have not yet taken a decision in the matter.