

the effect that Delhi Telephones did not utilise the installed capacity of its exchanges to the prescribed extent of 90 per cent for giving connections during the last five years resulting in loss to the exchequer to the tune of Rs. 271 lakhs and if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government propose to inquire into the working of the Commercial Department and the officers who are responsible for this loss and have not accorded sanction to new connections to subscribers and are still delaying the cases without any reasons?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. The installed capacity of exchanges in Delhi Telephones could not be utilised to the prescribed extent of 90 per cent due to shortage of cables, stores, restriction on road digging during Asiad, NAM, CHOGM and during monsoons etc. The loss is only hypothetical.

(b) No please, since no such instance has been brought to the notice of the Government.

Indo-Soviet Manned Space Flight

68. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to Government's notice that some of the Indian Correspondents who had gone to Moscow to cover the Indo-Soviet manned Space Flight were dropped from the list of those who were to cover launching at the Baikanour Cosmodrome;

(b) if so what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) No Indian newspaper correspondent, who had gone to Moscow to cover the Indo-Soviet Manned Space Flight was dropped from the list of those who were to cover the launching at the Baikanour Cosmodrome.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Shortage of Kerosene and Diesel in Bihar and Orissa due to dock Workers' strike

69. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Telegraph dated the 29th March, 1984 wherein it has been stated that there has been a considerable fall-out of the port strike leading to acute shortage of kerosene and high speed diesel in most part of Eastern India particularly in Bihar and Orissa;

(b) whether any steps have since been taken by Government to meet the shortage of kerosene and high speed diesel in those areas; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA): (a) Government have seen the news-report. Initially due to port strike, the tanker movements and rail loadings at Haldia were affected, resulting in low stocks at some of the depots in Bihar and Orissa.

(b) Rescue despatches were made from Vizag to depots in Orissa and from alternative sources to depots in