

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL): (a) Yes.

Sir. Subject to availability of equipment
following exchanges are under consideration
for opening during

Name of place	District	Type of Exchange/ nominal capacity in lines
1. Barkot	Uttarkashi	Small Auto Exchange 25 lines
2. Bhatwari	"	"
3. Purala	"	"
4. Kanakpur	Nainital	"
5. Dineshpur	"	"
6. Mohan	"	"
7. Pothari	Ghamoli	" 10 lines
8. Agust Muni	"	"
9. Pantnagar	Nainital	"
10. Uttamnagar	"	"
11. Padampur	"	"
12. Chaura Mehta	"	"
13. Fauzi Colony	"	"
14. Pipri Saina	"	"

Amendment to the Appntjntices Act

503. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY.

SHRI V. VENKA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND
REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to
make any amendment in the Appren-
tices Act; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND
REHABILITATION (SHRI DHARMA VIR).
No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Reorganisation of State Electricity Boards

504. SHRI VISHVAJIT PRITHVIJIT
SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Federation
of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
(FICCI) has recently urged upon the Govern-
ment for reorganisation of the State Electricity
Boards and for increasing the share of the
Centre in power generation; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the
Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI
CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) and (b)
It is imderstood that Federa-

tion of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has undertaken some study on power supply position in the Eastern Region with special reference to Bihar in which FICCI has observed that the "management of the power system in the States should be revitalised. Consumers including industry should be given adequate representation on the State Electricity Boards. The consultative committee should also be given adequate representation on the Boards." However, no formal representation in this regard has been received from FICCI.

New LPG Gas Burner and kerosene stove

505. SHRI VISHVAJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that a new Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG) burner and a new high-efficiency Kerosene stove have been developed by the Indian Oil Corporation's Research and Development Centre at Faridabad;

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

(c) by when the same are likely to be made available in the market?

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

(b) The new LPG stove developed by Indian Oil Corporation's Research and Development Centre at Faridabad has efficiency of about 70 per cent as compared to about 60 per cent of the current marketed LPG stoves. It is expected to save at least 15 per cent LPG for the consumer. Nutan Kerosene wick stove has a thermal

efficiency of 60 per cent as compared to 37 per cent to 45 per cent efficiency of other stoves in the market; it saves, on an average 30 per cent kerosene and above 25 per cent cooking time than most of the existing wick stoves.

(c) The new LPG Gas Stove under the brand name 'Nutan' is likely to be made available in the market by the beginning of June, 1983. Nutan kerosene wick stove was introduced in the market in March, 1977.

Excavators purchased by Coal India Ltd. from HEC

506. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of excavators purchased by Coal India Ltd. from Heavy Engineering Corporation during the last 3 years;

(b) the cost of each excavator;

(c) whether the excavators are completely manufactured by the Heavy Engineering Corporation or it contains any imported components;

(d) if imported components are used, what is the percentage of the same;

(e) whether global tenders for the purchase of excavators were invited, if so, whether the tender of the Heavy Engineering Corporation was the lowest; and

(f) whether any price preference is given to Heavy Engineering Corporation; if so, how much and what is the justification therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.