

Year	No. of Scavengers
1995-96	98
1996-97	204
1997-98	73

**Participation of Indian Oil Corporation
in Power Sector**

903. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- whether Indian Oil Corporation has any proposal to enter in power generation sector;
- if so, the details thereof;
- the total capacity of the power plants to be set up by the Indian Oil Corporation; and
- the amount likely to be spent on these plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) IOC proposes to develop four residue based Power Projects close to its refineries at four locations i.e. Panipat (Haryana), Savli (Gujarat), Kosikalan (UP) and Haldia (WB) Also a 120 MW project has been planned to be set up at Bhatinda (Punjab) in joint venture with PSEB. Details of capacity and likely cost of these projects are as under.

Project location	Capacity (MW)	Project Cost (Rs.crores)
Panipat	301	1528
Savli	500	1670
Kosikalan	110	418
Haldia	500	2500
Bhatinda	120	368

Reservation to Backward Classes

904. SHRI BHASKAR RAO PATIL : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- whether the Government have decided to provide reservation for backward classes in educational institutions;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) A proposal to provide reservation to other backward Classes in educational institutions is under consideration.

[English]

Separate Ministry For North-Eastern States

905. SHRI K. A. SANGTAM :
SHRI K.S. RAO :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- whether the Government propose to have a separate Ministry for North-Eastern States; and
- if so, the objectives and the likely composition thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) There is a separate Division dealing with the North Eastern affairs in the Ministry of Home Affairs. The problems of the North Eastern State receive special attention in the Home Ministry.

[Translation]

LPG Agencies

906. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :
SHRI R.S.GAVAI :
SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI :
SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMCHANDRAN :

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

- the number of L.P.G. agencies allotted in each State till date;
- the number out of those agencies allotted to SC/ST, handicapped, freedom fighters and ex-servicemen separately State-wise;
- the details of advertisements published to allot LPG agencies in each State during the last three years;
- the number of applications pending for approval, State-wise; and
- the number of new agencies proposed to be allotted during the current year alongwith their locations, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) As on 1.4.1998, 5324