

[Translation]

Strength of RAF

902. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the strength of Rapid Action Force and the number of its units raised so far and the locations where they have been posted;

(b) the percentage of representation given to religions minorities and scheduled castes / scheduled/tribes in the Rapid Action Force at the time of recruitment:

(c) whether the basic objective of the Rapid Action Force is to constitute a combined force and to give more representation to minorities and Scheduled castes/ Scheduled tribes in it; and

(d) if, so the extent to which this objective has been achieved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SYED SIBTEY RAZI) : (a) The sanctioned strength of Rapid Action Force is 13,180. The Force now consists of 10 Bns. located at Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Allahabad, Bombay, Delhi, Aligarh, Thiruvananthapuram, Jamshedpur, Bhopal and Meerut.

(b) There is no direct recruitment for RAF, which is a part of CRPF. CRPF personnel are suitably screened and posted to RAF, which is a composite Force. The present representation of religious minorities and Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe in RAF is as under :

Religious minorities	-	17.21%
Scheduled Caste	-	13.64 %
Scheduled Tribe	-	4.76 %

(c) and (d). RAF has been successful in achieving its basic objective, which is to deal with communal riots and riot like situations in a non partisan and objective manner, to instil confidence amongst all sections of the society, and render succour to innocent victims ravaged by riots.

Telephone in Andhra Pradesh

903. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Andhra Pradesh particularly in Hyderabad and Secunderabad, separately, category-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to introduce scheme of 'Telephone connection on demand'; and

(c) if so, the time by which this facility would be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The waiting list as on 31.12.1995 in Andhra Pradesh is 1,46,204, category-wise details of waiting list including Hyderabad and Secunderabad are given below :

S.No.	Station	Waiting list		
		OYT	N-OYT	Total
1.	Hyderabad	10	12166	12176
2.	Sikanderabad	85	25941	26026
	A.P. Circle including Hyderabad and Sikanderabad	719	145485	146204

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) National Telecom Policy 1994, envisages provision of telephone connection on demand all over the country by 1997 including Andhra Pradesh. Expansion plans are being drawn by DOT accordingly. Help of private sector is also being taken to supplement the efforts of DOT for meeting the above objective.

LPG Connections

904. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR :

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

(a) the number of LPG connections released from the Minister's discretionary quota and on the basis of recommendations of MPs/VIPs during 1995-96 ;

(b) the total number of recommendations received from the MPs and out of them how many were rejected ;

(c) the norms being followed in this regard ;

(d) whether replies are sent to the MPs whose recommendations are rejected ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (e). Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas have issued orders to the LPG Marketing Companies to release 123219 domestic LPG connections during the period 1.1.1995 to 31.12.1995 under discretionary powers. These connections have been sanc-