

[English]

**Pricing and Distribution of Raw Material
by I.P.C.L.**

4790. SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited raised the price of its General Purpose grade LDPE from Rs. 21,300 to Rs. 44,000 per MT during March 1987 to July 1990;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether IPCL has imported enough material to meet its shortage in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the IPCL has implemented its distribution policy announced sometime back to give priority to its old customers and if not the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to protect the interest of thousands of small units engaged in the processing of General Purpose grade LDPE?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The gradual increase in price of LDPE from 1987 to July, 1991 was due to increase in input costs, increase in sales tax and also due to impact of recent fiscal policy changes and the incidence of gulf surcharge.

(c) to (e). As LDPE is under OGL (stock and sale), IPCL and the consuming industry both are importing the material. The total import of LDPE/LLDPE by IPCL and the industry during 1990-91 is estimated as 38,200 tonnes and 208,00 tonnes respectively. IPCL is distributing their products on the offtake pattern of their customers in the

past, however, supply to these customers i.e. sometimes revised to maintain supply to milk packaging, forestry and other priority requirements. In order to support the small scale sector, IPCL will import such quantity of material, as required by the distribution policy, subject to competitive price level in international market, availability of foreign exchange and availability of the product in the international market.

**Deaths due to collapse of a wall in
H.O.C.L.**

4791. SHRI MOHAN VISHNU RAWLE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether seven women employees of the Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited, Rasayani have died due to the collapse of a wall of sulphur godown during the first week of July, 1991;

(b) if so, whether the cause of wall collapse is storing more sulphur than the capacity of the godown;

(c) if so, the actual capacity of godown and the quantity of sulphur stored therein at the time of tragedy;

(d) if not, the facts thereof and whether the dead bodies of the women employees were cremated hurriedly without informing their family members; and

(e) if so, whether any action has been taken against the persons responsible for this tragedy and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) 7 women workers engaged by a Civil Contractor died due to collapse of dyke wall of sulphur storage yard on 2nd July, 1991.