

[English]

**Allotment of Petrol/Diesel Retail Outlets to Tribals in Delhi**

2406. SHRI KARIA MUNDA: Will the Minister of PETROLOEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allot petrol/diesel retail outlets to tribals in Delhi;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of petrol/diesel retail outlets allotted to tribals in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The 100 point Roster presently being followed by the Oil Industry for 25% reservation for SCs/STs provides reservation for SC only in Delhi.

(c) The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Employment of SCs/STs in V.S.P.**

2407. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Ministry of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons employed in the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant during the last three years, category-wise;

(b) the number of local people among them;

(c) the number of SC/ST employees out of the total employees; category-wise; and

(d) whether the vacancies are filled according to the reservation quota?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The requisit information is given below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Executives</i>	<i>Non-Executives</i>
1988	161	2053
1989	296	2228
1990	463	1920
1991 (As on 31.10.91)	109	1752

(b) The requisite information is not available since the statistics in regard to employment on the basis of origin or place of birth are not maintained.

(c) The representation of Schedule castes and Schedule Tribes as on 31.10.1991 is as follows:

<i>Group</i>	<i>Total Strength</i>	<i>SC</i>	<i>ST</i>
A	2081	22	35

<i>Group</i>	<i>Total Strength</i>	<i>SC</i>	<i>ST</i>
B	372	48	5
C	8395	1257	332
D	1707	272	125
D (Safai Karamchari)	106	32	4

(d) Policy in regard to reservation of posts of SCs/STs is being followed by VSP. There are, however, backlog in vacancies in respect of certain posts which could not be filled due to non-availability of suitable SC/ST candidates. Efforts are being made to fill the backlog in vacancies from SC/ST candidates in such categories.

#### **Sponge Iron Project at Vishakhapatnam**

2408. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant has any proposal for setting up of a Sponge Iron Project; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Rise in Cost of Assam Refinery**

2409. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of the Assam Refinery Project has escalated from the original estimate; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) and (b). Against the original estimate of Rs. 1259 crores (July, 1990 prices) the cost of Assam Refinery is now estimated to be about Rs. 1799 crores (July, 1991 prices). The increase in cost is on account of normal escalation since July, 1990, devaluation of rupee, etc.

#### **Silviculture**

2410. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering adoption of silviculture in preference of Agriculture by farmers whose lands were unsuited for agriculture;

(b) if so, whether a 'massive campaign' is to be launched on priority basis in this regard; and

(c) if so, salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a)